The Journal of Historical Review

THIS ISSUE

Letters to the Editor

The Public Stake in Revisionism

Khatyn—Another Hoax

The Boer War Remembered

Death From on High

Auschwitz Notebook

ALSO

Book Reviews

Revisionist Announcements

Volume One, Number Three *Fall 1980*

The Journal of Historical Review

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INSTITUTE FOR HISTORICAL REVIEW
P.O. Box 1306, Torrance, CA. 90505, U.S.A.

CONTENTS

A Note from the Editor .197
Lewis Brandon

Letters to the Editor .199

The Public Stake in Revisionism .205
Harry Elmer Barnes

Khatyn—Another Hoax .231
Louis FitzGibbon

The Boer War Remembered .235
Mark Weber

Death From On High .247
Charles C. Lutton

Auschwitz Notebook .255
Ditlieb Felderer

Book Reviews .273

About the Contributors .287

A Note From The Editor

Some readers may already know that we endeavored to get our message through to the educational institutions by mailing out sample copies of the first issue of THE JOURNAL OF HISTORICAL REVIEW to the mailing list of the Organization of American Historians. We rented their list perfectly openly, and made a special promotional offer to the historians on the list if they would subscribe to THE JOURNAL.

The reaction startled even the staff here. We thought we had become somewhat desensitized to the behavior of the neurotic reactionaries who pose as historians in our colleges and universities, but the response to this mailing really left one speechless with amazement that our education system had become so sick. A selection of the responses is published here in our "Letters to the Editor" section, but these were just the ones which were printable. We have on file many others from "academics" throughout the land whose objectivity, open-mindedness, intelligence, and even grammar, would have a hard time surpassing that of a cantaloupe. As Dr. Jim Martin wrote to me on 5 May:

> History probably is at its lowest point in national esteem as a respectable school subject on any level, and a decade ago I suggested in a letter to the editor of the *National Observer* (a weekly paper issued by the same publisher as the *Wall Street Journal*) that history be abandoned as a school subject. I think you may have better luck amassing support from those outside "hire" education, as Charles A. Beard and Thorstein Veblen spelled it.

No sooner had Dr. Martin's letter arrived on my desk than we had the "massed" media big-guns turned against us. On the same day—13 May 1980—two out of the three major television networks lambasted the Institute, and our newborn JOURNAL. On KNBC-TV (the Los Angeles NBC affiliate) Gideon Hausner the prosecutor at the Eichmann trial and now a member of the Israeli parliament, launched into a diatribe against the IHR, egged on by the interviewer Jess Marlow. Not to be up-staged by their network rivals, the CBS affiliate in the metropolis, KNXT-TV, broadcast a five minute hymn of hate against us, in a monolog by one Bill Stout. We were referred to as "anti-Semites," "defenders of the Nazi record," "disgusting," "peddlers of filth," and "sewage."

I called up both stations the next day—my feelings sorely hurt by this unkindness—and insisted that the Institute be given the right to reply through allowing us equal time. Both stations refused. The CBS producer even claimed that the Stout tantrum was not "editorializing" but "news."

So, if this is the kind of material that network television stations regard as "news" what kind of credence can we place on "news" reporting, "news" footage, "news" interviews? I wrote to the Federal Communications Commission and asked that they investigate formal complaints against the two stations, and suspend their FCC licenses if they do not allow the right of reply.

One thing that Stout (any relation to Rex Stout of Writers' War Board fame?) did enlighten us on was the fact that it was the Anti-Defamation League which had informed him of our activities, and that they had already been on to the Organization of American Historians to demand their humble apologies. Needless to say, the OAH meekly obeyed their spiritual masters, and an apology to the membership and to the ADL and to World Jewry and to the little Jewish man in the dry-cleaners on the corner will be forthcoming in their next newsletter. Such is the power that an illegal organization (it flaunts the law by acting as an unregistered agency of a foreign government) can wield over what is supposed to be an independent, free-thinking, academic group of objectivists.

LEWIS BRANDON
Director: Institute for Historical Review
Editor: THE JOURNAL OF HISTORICAL REVIEW

Letters to the Editor

25 April 1980

To Whom It May Concern:

I am returning this journal. I strongly object to the general thesis of the various articles.

I want to express my protest about these articles, and I ask that I be removed from your mailing list.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr. Sara Alpern
Assistant Professor
Texas A&M University
College of Liberal Arts
College Station, Texas 77843

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5 May 1980

Dear Sirs:

I am returning this piece of scurrilous, polemical, anti-semitic material to you. I do not wish to have it grace my shelves.

Sincerely,

Betty M. Unterberger
Professor of History
Texas A&M University
College of Liberal Arts
College Station, Texas 77843

26 April 1980

Dear Sir:

I support the principle of Revisionist history, presented in a scholarly fashion—indeed, all historical writing is in some way Revisionist.

However, I find the form and content of your publication intellectually and morally repugnant. Please remove my name from your mailing list.

Sincerely,
Karen A. Stuart
121 West Seminary Avenue
Lutherville, Maryland 21093

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23 April 1980

Dear Mr. Brandon:

I have received the first number of THE JOURNAL OF HISTORICAL REVIEW. Because you wrote in your accompanying letter that you "look[ed] forward to hearing from" me, I am taking this opportunity to convey my impression of your journal.

I have read the articles by Messrs. Butz and App. Mr. Butz believes that the myriad historians, memoirists, journalists, and others who have for the past thirty-five years belonged to the "exterminationist" school of Holocaust interpretation have been parties to a hoax, either because they have had something to gain, personally or ideologically, from the fraud or because "societal and political conditions" have frightened them away from the truth. Imagine the conspiratorial expertise required to perpetrate such a hoax on so many people, in so many places, over so long a time! The Elders of Zion have refined their techniques since the days of Henry Ford.

Lest you or Mr. Butz miss the sarcasm—as, from the nature of his article, I am afraid he might—let me assure you that as a historian Mr. Butz is beneath contempt. And Mr. App is beneath that. Neither will ever be taken seriously by respectable members of the profession. This being the United States of America and not nazi Germany, there is every reason to hope that even among the general public they and their confreres will not rise above crackpot status.

Sincerely,

David M. Gold
2252½ Summit Street
Columbus, Ohio 43202

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25 April 1980

Dear Mr. Brandon:

I thank you for your letter of 17 April 1980, although I must ask you once again not to send me any of your literature. As well, I am troubled by your apparent lack of perceptivity.

You suggested that only historians were included among the contributors to the first number of your journal. They must then, one supposes, truly be amateurs for according to your own biographical information (pp88-90) you have published articles from a professor of electrical engineering, a professor of French literature, a professor of letters, an executive with a commercial company, a Ph.D. in English literature, and two publishing company executives. I am not so elitist as to suggest that such individuals cannot write good history, but these are hardly the credentials one expects to find among serious, professional historians in a journal purporting to be dedicated to "historical review," or of the sort that together can stand the test of credibility with an informed public.

As you noted, historians must be "objective and open to new ideas." This does not, of course, mean that one has to accept the validity of these ideas. Rather, the true task of an historian is to study the factual evidence and make reasoned, analytical judgments based on the data. I am hardly "suppressing your analysis" by challenging your data and your conclusions, merely doing whatever I can to make sure that people unfortunate enough to receive the garbage you call history understand the distortions and perversities of your misguided attempts at historical analysis.

Finally, your suggestion that I resign my position due to my "betrayal" of historical objectivity is of the sort of ludicrousness and lack of sophistication which appears to be the standard of your operation. I certainly would not expect you to cease your efforts (although one can hope) simply because of my perception that what you do bears no resemblance whatsoever to serious historical research or writing. Resign, indeed. Despite the fact that my training as a professional historian is as yet incomplete and certainly imperfect I feel confident in stating that the history profession needs people like me to help protect it from people like you.

Sincerely,

Eric J. Vernon
Dept. of History
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio 43210

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28 April 1980

Sir:

I am what your journal would call an "Exterminationist," teaching courses on the literature of the Holocaust and from time to time giving talks at various places.

I am pleased that your group is now publishing a journal. From time to time students ask me why it is worthwhile to teach about an event which took place 35 years ago. Now, with the journal you have published, I can point out to them that it is taught or spoken about because there are those who still insist that it never took place. Forgive but don't Forget.

Fred Lapides
University of Bridgeport
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06602

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9 May 1980

Dear Mr. Brandon:

Congratulations on the first issue of THE JOURNAL OF HISTORICAL REVIEW which we received on our Charter Subscription.

The articles were scholarly, balanced and extremely informative and we look forward to your promised articles on the origins of the Second World War, the effects of which are still with us today. No doubt you will also be expanding your book review section and perhaps you will have a "Letters" section.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform your readers that not all Jews are political Zionists. Thirty years have passed since the Zionist state was established. Is it a coincidence that there has not been one single day of peace, nor is there much outlook for peace? The great Rabbis of past generations declared political Zionism would lead to the gravest catastrophe ever wrought upon the Jewish people. Eighty years ago Rabbi Shulem DovBer Schneerson wrote that Jews must oppose the concept of a state, for the Talmud foreswears the use of force or power to bring about the establishment of a state. Rabbi Schneerson's predictions have come true.

No less a crime is the abrogation by the Zionist state of the right to speak in the name of the Jewish people. The political Zionists cannot represent or speak in the name of the Jewish people.

With regard to peace, the authoritative Jewish position was declared by the late chief Rabbi of the Holy land, Rabbi Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld as follows: "The Jews do not want to encroach upon the rest of the inhabitants of the Holy Land. The Jews do not want in any way, to take that which isn't theirs. And they certainly do not want to contest the rights of the other inhabitants to the places held by them. His successor Rabbi Yosef Tzvi Duschinsky stated before the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, 16 July 1947, to avoid further bloodshed and strife the United Nations should not help establish a state under the dominion of the Zionists.

Dr. Alfred Lilienthal and the late William Zukerman and also Martin Buber have fought a courageous, but seemingly hopeless battle against political Zionism. The Zionist propaganda machine is strongly entrenched and almost impossible to dislodge.

As a long-time libertarian and Revisionist I was shocked to learn that several so-called libertarian publications have refused to publish advertisements of the Institute of Historical Review. This is incomprehensible to me. The Holocaust debate is a key element in the uncritical support for Israel by the West, which has alienated 800 million Moslems, has contributed to a sixfold increase in oil prices and could lead to a world war. Don't these "libertarian" publications believe the works of Rassinier being brought to the attention of libertarians and discussed?

One thing that has not been much-discussed by Revisionists in the current 'world crisis' is the role of the international money ring in behind-the-scenes manipulations. It seems to us this is worth further study in your Journal.

Sincerely,

Bezalel Chaim
Associate Editor
Revisionist Press
P.O. Box 2009
Brooklyn, New York 11202

The Public Stake In Revisionism

Harry Elmer Barnes

Every American citizen has much more at stake in understanding how and why the U.S. was drawn into World War II than in perusing the Warren Report, its supplementary volumes, and the controversial articles and books of the aftermath, or the annals of any isolated public crime, however dramatic.

However tragic and regrettable, the assassination of President Kennedy was a relatively simple crime as compared to perhaps the most lethal and complicated public crime of modern times, our entry into World War II. This resulted in the immediate loss of over thirty million lives, an ultimate cost of more than fifteen trillion dollars, incredible suffering, and a military-scientific-technological-industrial aftermath which may wipe out the human race; and the concomitant result: a conditioned outlook whereby millions favor war—exerted externally upon a foreign "enemy" and internally upon the taxpayers—as the means to insure peace.

Do We Need More Books to Vindicate Revisionism?

Although a formidable array of evidence has been amassed and offered by Revisionist scholars as to our involvement in World War II, this evidence has not been fully recognized or generally understood. Writing in 1965, Richard J. Whalen, author of the brilliant *The Founding Father*, stated: [1]

> In the twentieth year after the end of World War II, we still do not have an unsparingly truthful, solidly authoritative account of how and why the United States was drawn into World War II. And it is becoming doubtful that we will ever have it.
>
> The reasons are many: World War II was the liberals' war and they are understandably determined to uphold their version of its origins with all the formidable political and intellectual resources at their command. There is also our necessary preoccupation with the suc-

> cessor struggle now centered on Southeast Asia; with so much to comprehend here and now, a searching look backward at our tragic line of march seems almost a luxury we can ill afford. But most important of all, we are losing our hope of the truth about the central experience of our time simply because time is passing.
>
> Research is a young man's occupation, particularly the kind of relentless inquiry required to uncover and piece together information that powerful vested interests wish to conceal. Unfortunately, those under forty who are researching and writing history for the next generation with rare exceptions have accepted the "explanation" of World War II provided by folklore and orthodox scholarship. The dissenters—the Revisionist historians—have not been able to reach the generation that has come of age since the war; the latter are scarcely aware that another side of the story exists.
>
> Twenty years after Versailles, the situation was entirely different. The tidal wave of disillusionment that swept through the West brought a flood of scholarly and popular books debunking the official history of the war. Revisionism became an integral part of the dominant liberalism of the period. But the younger journalists and historians who revolted against their elders following the first World War have, in the years since the last war, succeeded brilliantly in forestalling a like revolt against themselves. And so we have missed the debunking generation, and the question is whether we can somehow stimulate a ferocious curiosity in the next. The odds are heavily against it. . . .
>
> The Revisionists. . . must exert themselves to produce truly arresting and provocative studies within a framework geared to a new era and a new audience, works that will thrust deep into the public consciousness and at last wrench open a prematurely closed subject of paramount importance.

While agreeing, in general, with Mr. Whalen's informed and judicious appraisal of the Revisionist situation, I would bluntly, if amiably, question his assertion that in two decades after V-J Day "we still do not have an unsparingly truthful, solidly authoritative account of how and why the United States was drawn into World War II," unless he demands absolute perfection, which was not attained by any Revisionist book written after World War I. Since I am probably more familiar than any other person, living or dead, with the Revisionist literature on the causes of both world wars and our entry into them, I would say that we have actually been especially fortunate in the number and quality of the Revisionist books which have appeared on this subject since V-J Day—more and better books than were published on our entry into the first World War in the same period of time. Although we should always welcome new and possibly better books on the subject, we have no more pressing need of another comprehensive and readable book on the causes of American entry into the second World War than we have of another good biography of Joseph P. Kennedy, now that Mr. Whalen has supplied us with an absorbing and masterly treatment of this subject.

By 1948, we had Charles Austin Beard's two magisterial volumes on the causes of our entry into the war, carrying the story right down into Pearl Harbor and the comprehensive book by George Morgenstern on Pearl Harbor, which is surely the outstanding *tour de force* in the Revisionist literature of either world war and has not been discredited on any essential matters, despite the extensively subsidized, widely publicized, and lavishly praised efforts of Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison and Roberta Wohlstetter.

By 1950, we had William H. Chamberlin's *America's Second Crusade,* which matched for reliable information and brilliance of style Walter Millis' widely read *Road to War* that told the same story relative to our first crusade. In 1951, Frederic R. Sanborn's very able and scholarly book, *Design for War,* was published, but it was destined to become the most unfortunately ignored Revisionist book on our entry into the second World War, despite its impressive scholarship, its lucid style, and the distinction of the author. It did not get even a book note in the *American Historical Review.*

By 1953, we had two additional books which qualified even more impressively for supplying the lacuna regretted by Mr. Whalen, Charles Callan Tansill's *Back Door to War* (1952), and the book I edited on *Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace* (1953).

Tansill's *America Goes to War* (1938) was the first exhaustively scholarly work on how we were drawn into the first World War, and this did not appear until two decades after the Armistice of 1918. It was praised in the *Yale Review* of June 1938, in the following lyrical fashion by no less than Professor Henry Steele Commager, a participant in the historical blackout on World War II Revisionism: "It is critical, searching, and judicious. . .a style that is always vigorous and sometimes brilliant. It is the most valuable contribution to the history of the prewar years in our literature, and one of the most notable achievements of historical scholarship of this generation."

In my opinion, *Back Door to War* is equally brilliant and reliable, and is an even more useful book in that it also provides an account of the causes of the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939 almost as comprehensive as A. J. P. Taylor's *Origins of the Second World War*, and based on more thorough documentation. That the latter book brought so much consternation to American readers nearly a decade later, only underlines the manner in which Tansill's invaluable labors had been missed by the literate American public and brushed aside by the rank and file of professional historians.

The difference in the reception of Tansill's two books was almost entirely due to the change in the climate of historical and public opinion, an impressive example of historical "relativism." *America Goes to War* appeared at the moment of the maximum triumph of Revisionist literature on World War I; *Back Door* came out when the blackout against World War II Revisionism was already getting organized and solidified. The fact that *Back Door* had a relatively large sale for a book of its nature was due in part to an intensive and expensive promotional campaign but perhaps even more to the fact that historians and publicists had not fully realized the actual nature, force, and implications of World War II Revisionism until they had read the Tansill volume. Thereupon, they rallied to the colors that had been hoisted and waved by Admiral Morison and lesser lights in the historical profession, the historical blackout was intensified and congealed, and it has never let up since. Further academic use of *Back Door* was discouraged, and a considerable portion of a later edition was sold at remainder prices.

A book that probably qualified even more perfectly for filling the gap mentioned by Mr. Whalen was *Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace*. It is doubtful if there will ever be a better work written for this purpose. Subsequent research in this field gives no indication that any fundamental changes will be needed in the essential phases of the narrative, and the minor ones required will be more than offset by the reduced familiarity of future authors with the times, of which the authors of *Perpetual War* were highly intelligent, informed, and favored witnesses. Moreover, it combined and exploited the knowledge and ability of the leading American Revisionists of that day save for Beard, who had already passed away. The book was extremely well written throughout and rather more readable than most books of its nature and intent. Yet, despite vigorous promotional efforts, the book was a pathetic publishing flop. Not more than half of the modest first printing was sold, and the remainder were purchased by one of the richest Americans for fifty cents a copy to distribute to grass-roots fundamentalists!

Instructive of an increasingly popular trend in reviewing by anti-Revisionists, namely, the tendency to evade the facts well established by Revisionist writers, was the review of the book by Bernard C. Cohen of Princeton University in the *American Political Science Review,* December, 1954. Cohen led off his review with the statement: "This is an unpleasant book to read." This set the tone of the whole review, which failed to come to grips with the facts presented in the book.

The content and challenge of the Tansill book had pulled the blackout contingent together into speedy action by the time that *Perpetual War* reached the market, and by 1954 it was obvious that a book or even more books were not the main answer to public enlightenment on the causes and results of our entry into the second World War. A number of other good books have appeared since that time, but this is not the place to provide a bibliography of World War II Revisionism.[2]

The essence of the matter is that the historical profession has rallied and fully exploited the suggestion of Samuel Flagg Bemis in 1947 that books like Morgenstern's, which place guilt on President Roosevelt, are "serious, unfortunate, deplorable."[3] Writing in the top collaborative American History series, "the New American Nation," edited by Commager and Richard B. Morris, Professor Foster Rhea Dulles could state that "there is no evidence whatsoever to support such charges," as those advanced by Beard, Morgenstern, Tansill, Admiral Theobald, et al, relative to Roosevelt's responsibility for the Pearl Harbor surprise, and Professor A. Russell Buchanan could write a two-volume history of the United States and the second World War in the same series as though there had been no World War II Revisionism.

There is no space here to recount the nature and operation of this historical blackout relative to World War II Revisionism. I dealt with this comprehensive and effective operation and the fate of most of the important Revisionist books down to 1953 in the first chapter of *Perpetual War*, and have since brought the story down to date in many articles, brochures, and reviews.[4]

The Public Is Insulated from Even Readable Revisionist Books

The Revisionist books by Beard and Morgenstern were "loners" with which I had nothing to do except to welcome and commend them, and I first saw the Sanborn book in proofs and could do not more than to approve its publication and do what I could do to assist in its promotion, which was lamentably unsuccessful, despite the sound scholarship and great merit of the book.

The first book I arranged for was that of Mr. Chamberlin and it was designed to perform precisely the function that Mr. Whalen so eloquently pleads for in his final sentence. The author lived up very satisfactorily to our expectations. It would be difficult to envisage a book better designed to reach the literate public and induce them to reconsider the propaganda that led us into and through the second World War. If any book could "thrust deep into the public consciousness and wrench open a prematurely closed subject of paramount importance," *America's Second Crusade* should have done so, but even at this early date (1950) the blackout, stemming from wartime propaganda, was too rigid and well organized to permit this much-needed service.

Chamberlin's sound, reliable, and very readable volume sold less than ten thousand copies despite vigorous promotion, and six months after it appeared the publisher discovered that there was not a copy in the New York Public

Library or in any of its forty-five branches. It was ignored by most of the important periodicals, was smeared by most of the newspapers that reviewed it, and historians, students and faculty alike, were protected from it by the fact that it did not even rate a book note, to say nothing of a review, in the *American Historical Review*. It was quite apparent that the times were not ready for a book like Millis' best-selling *Road to War* on our entry into the first World War, and the American public is far less attuned to one now than fifteen years ago. Mr. Regnery has reissued the Chamberlin book in an unusually attractive and economical paperback, but there is no evidence after several years that it has pressed *Candy, Fanny Hill*, or *The Boston Strangler* in reader demand.

The experience with several other brief and highly readable books further confirmed the difficulty of gaining any marked public response to Revisionist literature, even with the aid of unusual publicity. A basic Revisionist book, *Popular Diplomacy and War*, by Sisley Huddleston, a world-famous journalist and publicist, one of the best writers of the era, and long popular with American liberal journals, had the benefit of two very adulatory lead editorials in issues of the *Saturday Evening Post*, 18 December 1964, and 8 January 1965, potentially calling the book to the attention of more than ten million readers, counting subscribers, newsstand purchasers, and their families and friends. The publisher of the Huddleston book told me that he could not attribute a sale of more than a hundred copies specifically to these supposedly awesome editorials.

Writing Revisionist Books for the Record

The question therefore inevitably arose as to sensible procedure in planning further Revisionist books. It was evident that little general excitement could be stirred by them, even when clearly and brilliantly written, although there was greater need for such public concern with Revisionist material than back in the days of my *Genesis of the World War* (1926) and Hartley Grattan's *Why We Fought* (1930). If we could not interest, to say nothing of arousing and exciting the public, we could at least write for the historical record, in the hope that Clio might ultimately escape from the embraces of what Captain Russell Grenfell has so colorfully called "the historical Gadarenes." It may be admitted that this writing for the record is a long shot, and that there is much to be said for Mr. Whalen's assertion that time may not be on the side of Revisionism. Yet, it is certain that if time will not serve World War II Revisionism, nothing is on its side. There is little prospect of any immediate triumph.

The foremost product thus far of Revisionist writing produced primarily for the record is James J. Martin's *American Liberalism and World Politics, 1931-1941* (1964). While the book is no literary Paul Revere, likely to arouse the countryside to the menace of the historical blackout, it is a monument of careful research and assembles massive and relevant documentation that could surely provide a vast amount of fuel for future firebrands, if any should arise to ride or write. Moreover, as Felix Morley put it, the book "is written with a wit and pleasant phrasing which all too seldom spice the stodgy puddings of extensive research."

The reaction to the Martin book amply demonstrated that the literate anti-Revisionist and non-Revisionist public was not yet ready even for history written for the record, and at the same time underlined the need for such material if there is to be any hope for the ultimate triumph of Revisionism.

Among the newspapers, the New York *Times* followed their pattern of many years, despite my personal appeal to the editor of the book review section to give the book adequate if critical attention. They gave it to Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., and he did his usual artistic job on it, carefully evading the facts. He questioned only one specific fact, namely, whether the word "thusly" has lexicographical authenticity, and even on this matter Martin was right.

As was to be expected, the only favorable comments in important newspapers that came to my attention were in those that had favored our non-intervention before Pearl Harbor and had espoused Revisionism after the war. The New York *DailyNews* praised it on 23 February 1965 in what was for them a long editorial, on the ground that it was needed as an effective rebuke to the liberals who had dominated

American public opinion far too long. The book was very compactly and effectively reviewed by William Henry Chamberlin in the Chicago *Tribune* on 4 April. He commended the key burden of the book, namely, that the liberals had emphasized, if not exaggerated, the threat of national socialism and fascism to democratic institutions while neglecting the equal menace of communist ideology and methods. Walter Trohan praised the book in his *Tribune* column for its effective revelation of the ideals and methods of the liberal commentators. Unfortunately, this conservative and Revisionist approval did not encourage many of the over three million readers of the *Daily News* and *Tribune* to purchase the book and document their sentiments.

Among the journals, it would have been expected that the *Nation* and *New Republic* would give the Martin book extensive attention, if only to condemn it, since Martin had based much of his record of the liberal flip-flop from peace to war upon contributions to these two magazines. He had given his reasons for this procedure at the outset in complete and convincing manner. So far as I could detect, neither magazine gave the Martin book any notice, thus validating Chamberlin's conclusion that Martin "probably knows more about the *New Republic* and *Nation* during the pre-war decade than their present editors."

But Carey McWilliams, the present editor of the *Nation*, moved over to the lively liberal journal of Los Angeles, *Frontier*, to administer a lengthy smear under the fantastic title, "Mumbo Jumbo: the Fantasy World of the Far Right," although he knew, or should have known, that Martin was as critical of the far right fantasies as McWilliams, himself. He devoted the core of his criticism to pooh-poohing Martin's emphasis on the importance of the *Nation* and *New Republic*, although the reasons for Martin's doing so were indicated at length in the opening portion of the book. This was a distinction which these journals were only too proud to claim throughout the decade of the 1930's. He wound up with a concluding smear to the effect that the book had been produced in part as a result of a grant by a foundation known for its assistance to the writing of Revisionist books. He could hardly have expected it to be aided by the Rockefeller Foundation, which financed the colossal Langer and Gleason whitewash of Roosevelt's foreign policy during this period, or the Rand Corporation, which backed the Wohlstetter book.

Richard Whalen reviewed the book fairly in the *National Review*, although he was sceptical of writing mainly for the record and stressed, as was noted at the outset of this article, the need for a brief and clear account of how the United States got into the second World War. He fully recognized the research and scholarship involved in producing the book.

The best review typically expressing the reaction of interventionist liberals was that by Professor Paul F. Boller in the *Southwest Quarterly*, summer, 1965. He sought to read into Martin's book the assumption that the author held that fascism is to be preferred to communism, although Martin expressed no such opinion. He merely recounted the attitudes and opinions of the liberals who performed the flip-flop, which did indicate their apparent preference for communism, or at least their failure to be conscious of its threat to peace and the democratic way of life. But Boller did not write off the importance of Revisionism as a means of promoting peace, and he did give the book the extended consideration that its research and scholarship deserved. The review was about the best that could be expected from a wounded liberal ideologist.

Far the best review was that by the distinguished publicist and educator, Felix Morley, in the *Modern Age*, summer, 1965. Morley described what Martin actually wrote, indicated its import for understanding the past and dealing with the future of world affairs, analyzed the amazing liberal flip-flop and its importance in producing the rise of the war spirit, and intelligently evaluated the significance of the book. Recognizing the historical importance of a full treatment for the record, he also agreed with Whalen as to the need for a condensed version and urged the preparation of a paperback edition which would provide this and thus make possible a wide circulation of the book. Morley properly called attention to the danger that the cold warriors of today may be providing a flip-flop comparable to that of the liberals in the 1930's through the conservative shifting from nonintervention into an increasing obsession with the dangers of communism, a point of view also stressed by Herbert C. Roseman in his excellent review of the Martin book in the *Rampart Journal*, summer, 1965.

From the standpoint of historical scholarship, the most disheartening episode connected with the publication of the Martin book was the manner in which the book was handled by the foremost historical journal in the country, the *American Historical Review*, January, 1966. Taking for granted the unremitting anti-Revisionist policy of the *Review* for virtually a quarter of a century, one would have expected an unfavorable review and could even have respected such consistency. But here was a book which actually constituted one of the most scholarly, informing, and impressive contributions to the history of political policy, journalistic methods, and international affairs made during the present century. It surely deserved at least a two-page review, however bitterly attacked, provided that substantial explanations were given for the criticism, as Professor Boller did give. Instead, the book was handed over to Professor Robert H. Ferrell of Indiana University, well known as an inveterate anti-Revisionist. The book was given summary treatment, the quality of which is apparent from his appraisal of the book as "an impossible goulash" and a "scholarly disaster." All this was in faithful accord with the traditional historical blackout. But the half-page "review" also indicated the growing acceptance of the Germanophobia of the historical smotherout by describing the National Socialist regime as "the most amoral government since the statistically clouded time of Genghis Khan." At least, the treatment of the Martin book by Ferrell presented an instructive synthesis of the main items in the current equipment and techniques of anti-Revisionist historical opinion today; the historical blackout, the smother out, and making the test of acceptable historical prose whether it constitutes pleasant reading for approved historians and their brainwashed public.

The review also carried with it an ironical aftermath. Professor Martin wrote the editor a sprightly but courteous letter of protest about the Ferrell review, but received a reply which feigned shock, indicated that the letter was in bad taste, and implied that it could not be remotely considered for publication. It was not.

The allergy of most of the professional historians to the Martin book is easy to understand. By the time that the book appeared, the most generally accepted test of the worth and acceptability of a historical book of a controversial nature had become the question of whether or not it made pleasant reading to the historical guild. Since the latter was made up primarily of liberals who were war-minded in the late 1930's, or had been brainwashed later on, there is little doubt that the Martin book provided about the most unpleasant reading contained in any book published in this generation.

Some of us who went through this struggle against the war groups in the 1930's, such as Charles Austin Beard, Norman Thomas, Stuart Chase, General Charles Lindbergh, Edwin M. Borchard, John Chamberlain, John Flynn, Edmund Wilson, Sidney Hertzberg, Frank Hanighen, Jerome Frank, Quincy Howe, Hartley Grattan, Frank Chodorov, Oswald G. Villard, Marquis W. Childs, Selden Rodman, Burton Roscoe, Fred Rodell, Maurice Hallgren, Hubert Herring, George R. Leighton, Ernest L. Mayer, Dorothy D. Bromley, and the like, have known the facts by personal experience. But not even participants can know the whole story unless they have read the Martin book, and every American has much at stake in reading and digesting it. To revert to the title of John Kenneth Turner's pioneer work on World War I, *Shall It Be Again?*, the issue of whether the unparalleled public crime of the latter half of the 1930's shall be repeated may well hold within itself the destiny of the human race.

The Historical Blackout Is Replaced By the Historical Smotherout

For Revisionism to entice and instruct the newly matured generation, as suggested by Mr. Whalen, is, indeed, an exciting enterprise and might prove a very fruitful possibility to explore were it not for a crucial recent shift in the strategy of anti-Revisionism which seems to be rather generally unrecognized even by some of the veteran proponents of Revisionism, although they are virtually buried under evidence of the change by the material constantly presented by every communications agency in the country.

For some fifteen years after V-J Day, the opponents of World War II Revisionism were content to oppose Revisionist scholarship and publication by giving books the silent treatment, or smearing authors and books and belittling Revisionist scholarship. Despite such unfair procedure and the handicaps it imposed on World War II Revisionism, the Revisionists in time won the battle of factual demonstration hands down. Moreover, it was recognized that the traditional procedure of sniping, smearing, misrepresentation, and distortion in attacking traditional Revisionist works was becoming tedious, repetitive, frenetic, and often self-defeating in its fervor and misrepresentation, as was so well demonstrated by the review of the Martin book in the New York *Times* of 25 April 1965, by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. Hence, it was gradually but effectively decided to jockey the techniques of the historical blackout around into such a pattern that all but the most courageous and defiant Revisionists could be "shut up" entirely and rapidly and their products could be made to appear essentially irrelevant.

It was the Eichmann trial of 1960 which furnished an unexpected but remarkably opportune moment and an effective springboard for stopping World War II Revisionism dead in its tracks. As the courageous Jewish publicist, Alfred Lilienthal, has shown in his lucid book, *The Other Side of the Coin* (pp104-111), this trial revealed and demonstrated an almost adolescent gullibility and excitability on the part of Americans relative to German wartime crimes, real or alleged, and the equally apparent passionate determination of every type of American communication agency to exploit the opportunity for financial profit by placing every shred of both fact and rubbish connected with them before American readers, hourly and daily, for months, if not years, on end. Not even the sophisticated *Esquire* or *New Yorker* remained immune.

This revamped historical blackout, now become the historical "smotherout," is based chiefly on the fundamental but unproved assumption that what Hitler and the National Socialists did in the years *after* Britain and the United States entered the war revealed that they were such vile, debased, brutal, and bloodthirsty gangsters that Great Britain had been under an overwhelmingly moral obligation to plan a war to exterminate them. Following up this contention it was asserted that the United States was compelled to enter this conflict to aid and abet the British crusade as a moral imperative that could not be evaded but was an unavoidable exercise in political, social, and cultural sanitation.

The fundamental error in this ex *post facto* historiography was pointed out by A.J.P. Taylor in his interview with Professor Eric Goldman in the autumn of 1965.[5] But it is doubtful if one American in a million has ever heard or read this exchange. Even though he has never attempted to deny the fact that he is a persistent Germanophobe, the smotherout proved too much for Taylor to swallow, although he admitted his Germanophobia in the interview. As Taylor explained to Goldman:

> You must remember that these gas chambers came very late. People often talk as though they were implicit in Hitler's policy from the beginning. They were, in fact, a reprisal against our British policy of indiscriminate bombing. Hitler said, again and again, "If you are just going to go out and rub out German women and children, I'll take care that all the—not only Jews—but people of many lower races are rubbed out." And when I consider that the great powers and governments . . . the American government, the Soviet government, are now both cheerfully contemplating the obliteration of ten, twenty million people on the first day of war—you see gas chambers are nothing in comparison.

All alert and aware Revisionists should and always have expressed their deep regret and repugnance over whatever brutalities were actually committed by Hitler and his government, either before or after 1939, but they have also called attention to the demonstrable fact that the number of civilians exterminated by the Allies, before, during, and after the second World War, equalled, if it did not far exceed, those liquidated by the Germans, and the Allied liquidation program was often carried out by methods which were far more brutal and painful than whatever extermination actually took place in German gas ovens.[6]

These embarrassing facts are almost invariably suppressed in the same agencies of communication that are now incessantly portraying the allegedly unique abominations of the Germans. When pressed into a corner, which is a very rare opportunity indeed, the new smotherout vintage of anti-Revisionists contend, or at least imply, that it is far worse to exterminate Jews, even at the ratio of two Gentiles to one Jew, than to liquidate Gentiles. For Revisionists to controvert this assertion in behalf of non-partisan and non-racial humanitarianism exposes them to the charge of anti-Semitism, which, in the present state of sharply conditioned and persistently inflamed public opinion, is deemed to be rather worse than parricide or necrophilia.

No substantial or credible Revisionist believes that two wrongs can make a right or that revelation of the actual Allied genocide will solve the problem of averting future wars. But the recognition that the wartime barbarism was shared would put the responsibility where it belongs, namely, on the war system which, as F. J. P. Veale demonstrated so forcibly in his *Advance to Barbarism*, is becoming ever more barbarous and lethal. In a nuclear age, war will, as Taylor pointed out, provide in the course of its normal operations more hideous destruction of human life than has ever been alleged in the wildest flights of imagination of the smother-out addicts. One giant hydrogen bomb dropped over a major urban center would be likely to obliterate at least six million lives, and in our eastern seaboard towns hundreds of thousands of the victims would be Jews.

This is where World War II Revisionism stands today. It was difficult enough when Revisionists were merely accused of bias, folly, incompetence, or all three. To be accused of anti-Semitism today is far more precarious than to be accused, or even proved, to be guilty of pro-communism.

Interestingly enough, an attempt is now seeming to be made to push this Germanophobia back into the causes of the first World War, if we may judge from a long article on "How We Entered World War I" in the *New York Times Magazine* of 5 March 1967, by the brilliant stylist and historical popularizer, Barbara W. Tuchman, granddaughter of Henry Morgenthau, whose fanciful "story" played so unfortunate a part in encouraging the war guilt clause of the Versailles Treaty and thus helped to bring on the second World War. She had followed in her grandfather's steps by producing another fanciful story in her book, *The Zimmermann Telegram* (1958), which she has been unwise and audacious enough to reissue recently.

It was the *New York Times Current History Magazine* that requested me some forty-three years ago to summarize the historical facts which dissipated the myths of wartime propaganda about the first World War, of which *Ambassador Morgenthau's Story* was a leading item and had been devastatingly exposed as a fraud by Professor Sidney B. Fay in the *American Historical Review* in 1920. My article was published in *Current History* in May, 1924, and first put World War I Revisionism before the literate American public in an effective manner. Whatever may have been the purpose of the New York *Times* in publishing this article by Mrs. Tuchman, it does raise the question of the reality of "progress" so far as the historical perspective of the *Times* is concerned.

This article has aroused much indignation on the part of even moderate or dormant Revisionists but it failed to excite me. In my opinion, Mrs. Tuchman is the type of writer who, given enough rope, will hang herself, and she has certainly been taking a lot of rope recently in writing about Wilson and Freud in the *Atlantic* (February 1967) with no evident technical knowledge about either, and even posing as an expert on historiography in the *Saturday Review* (25 February 1967) although expert historians like Klaus M. Epstein, A. J. P. Taylor, and David Marquand, in reviewing her much publicized *The Proud Tower*, have questioned her capacity to write history. In my long review of her book in *The Annals*, November 1966, I at least conceded her rare ability as a popularizer of social history.

More ominous is the announcement of a book by Alton Frye (*Nazi Germany in the American Hemisphere, 1933-1941*, Yale University Press), sponsored by the Rand Corporation which launched the much-publicized effort of Roberta Wohlstetter to blur out essential facts about Pearl Harbor. This book contends that, after all, Hitler did have designs on the United States and envisaged plans for invading and occupying this country—reminiscent of Roosevelt's canard about Hitler's timetable for penetration to Iowa which figured prominently in the interventionist propaganda prior to American entry into the war.

In my opinion we are in more danger from the prospect that to Germanophobia may now be added a revival of Japanophobia. This trend was latent in the anti-Revisionist writings on Pearl Harbor by Walter Millis, Herbert Feis, Langer and Gleason, Robert J. C. Butow, Samuel E. Morison, and Robert H. Ferrell in their defense of Roosevelt. But it has just now taken a more definite form in Ladislas Farago's *The Broken Seal: The Story of "Operation Magic" and the Pearl Harbor Disaster* (1967), in which the Japanese efforts to preserve peace by negotiation are presented as a hypocritical sham to cover up their actual determination on war and to gain time to prepare for it. A more extended enterprise in this same vein has been foreshadowed by Gordon W. Prange. We may be on our way to returning to Admiral Halsey's view of the Japanese as sub-human anthropoids.

It is quite true that if they could be exposed to the facts about the causes of the second World War and our entry on their merits, free from the all-encompassing and incessant barrage of Germanophobia, notably that against National Socialist Germany, this generation of his own age to which Mr. Whalen refers is actually highly vulnerable and receptive. This I have demonstrated to my own satisfaction through the response to my lectures before student groups in first-rate American universities and colleges, and in such articles as those I wrote in *Liberation* in the summers of 1958 and 1959, in the *New Individualist Review* in the spring of

1962, and in the *Rampart Journal*, spring, 1966, thus covering both the left and right of this new generation.

We can, however, hardly expect those persons who might be willing to learn, if they had a fair chance, to withstand the incessant bombardment by our communication agencies designed to demonstrate that we had a vital moral and self-protective duty to favor and enter a war fought to rid the world of a gang of barbarians more dissolute and bloodthirsty than anything since, or even before, Genghis Khan and Tamerlane.

This younger and brainwashed generation gets into contact with only scattered and tiny bits of even the traditional Revisionist material, and this at considerable intervals. But not a day goes by without one or more sensational articles in the daily papers about the exaggerated National Socialist savagery which required our entry into the war; the leading weekly and monthly journals, especially *Look* and the *Saturday Evening Post*,[7] never miss their quota of this lurid prose; the radio has it on the air daily; expensive moving pictures are devoted to it; not a week goes by without several inciting television programs revolving around this propaganda, and sensational books pour forth at frequent intervals. While reading some of the most repulsive examples of such smotherout Germanophobia, I noted in the newspapers and journals pictures of President Johnson apparently posing without a shudder as the host of the Ethiopian tyrant and genocidal virtuoso, Haile Selassie, who had previously been invited, or at least permitted, to appear in the funeral cortege of President Kennedy.

Lest the public get "fed up" and bored by repetition, the material handed out to them has to be made more unceasing, exaggerated, and inflammatory. There should be some limit to this but it certainly is not in sight, as yet, even though it far exceeds in frequency, volume, and ferocity anything handed out in wartime, when the public imagination was occupied in large part by following military operations.

There would appear to be no restraining memory of the backwash that followed when the mendacity and exaggerations of the Bryce Report on alleged German atrocities in the first World War were revealed by Arthur Ponsonby, J. M.

Read, and others. The foremost authority on the subject has estimated that the number of Jews exterminated by the National Socialists, already reported by "authorities" cited by the smotherout for all the wartime German concentration camps, would amount to well over twenty-five millions. This does not include the upwards of a million allegedly killed by the German *Einsatzgruppe* when battling guerrilla warfare behind the lines. We are now being told (New York *Times*, 3 November 1966, and *Saturday Evening Post*, 25 February 1967) that the Austrians executed about as many Jews as the Germans. With not more than fifteen to eighteen million Jews in the world to start with in 1939, this is, indeed, a remarkable genocidal achievement, especially if one considers the logistical problems involved in its execution. The truth about German operations, if presented along with Allied brutalities, provides a sufficient indictment without any need for fantastic exaggerations which open the way for a devastating backwash, if and when the truth is presented in this or some future generation.

If a Revisionist work on the second World War were written with a combination of the scholarship of Sidney Fay and the persuasive stylistic genius of Millis and Chamberlin, the smotherout answer would be that the impressive facts of diplomatic history since 1930 which have been adduced and presented by Revisionists with conviction, force, and vigor are now only antiquated and irrelevant trivia. What is deemed important today is not whether Hitler started war in 1939, or whether Roosevelt was responsible for Pearl Harbor, but the number of prisoners who were allegedly done to death in the concentration camps operated by Germany during the war. These camps were first presented as those in Germany, such as Dachau, Belsen, Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen, and Dora, but it was demonstrated that there had been no systematic extermination in those camps. Attention was then moved on to Auschwitz, Treblinka, Belzec, Chelmno, Jonowska, Tarnow, Ravensbrück, Mauthausen, Brezeznia, and Birkenau, which does not exhaust the list that appears to have been extended as needed.

An attempt to make a competent, objective, and truthful investigation of the extermination question is now regarded as far more objectionable and deplorable than Professor Bemis viewed charging Roosevelt with war responsibility. It is surely the most precarious venture that an historian or demographer could undertake today; indeed, so "hot" and dangerous that only a lone French scholar, Paul Rassinier, has made any serious systematic effort to enter the field, although Taylor obviously recognizes the need for such work and hints as to where it would lead. But this vital matter would have to be handled resolutely and thoroughly in any future World War II Revisionist book that could hope to refute the new approach and strategy of the blackout and smotherout contingents.

Even former ardent Revisionist writers now dodge this responsibility, some even embracing and embellishing the smotherout. The most conspicuous example is that of Eugene Davidson, who once had the courage to place in jeopardy his position as head of the Yale University Press by publishing Charles Austin Beard's two forthright Revisionist volumes. In his *Death and Life of Germany* (1959), Davidson defied Burke's warning against indicting a nation and proceeded to indict Germany since 1932 on the basis of the *Diary of Anne Frank* without even remotely suggesting any question about its complete authenticity. His recent *The Trial of the Germans: Nuremberg* (1966) is providing no end of aid and comfort to the smotherout contingent, as evident immediately by the ecstatic review of the book in *Newsweek*, 9 January 1967.

The Davidson book is devastatingly reviewed by A. J. P. Taylor in the *New York Review* for 23 February 1967. As Taylor puts it: "The hypocrisy of Nürnberg was revolting enough in 1945. It exceeds all bounds when it is maintained in 1967, over twenty years afterwards. Mr. Eugene Davidson has compiled at enormous length a biography of the accused at Nürnberg. Here they are, from gorgeous Göring down to insignificant Fritzsche, the radio commentator. The biographies are pretty sketchy, slapdash stuff hotted up in a flashy style and evidently assuming that any kind of rubbish is good enough for such scoundrels. It is really rather hard that the thing should be done so badly. After all these years, there are some things perhaps worth discussing." The remaining comment on Nürnberg by Taylor is perhaps the best brief appraisal that has ever been written of its combination of bias, hypocrisy, and legalized imbecility. Taylor had previously written in the London *Observer*: "It is strange that an English Judge should have been found to preside over the macabre farce of the Nürnberg Tribunal; and strange that English lawyers, including the present Lord Chancellor, should have pleaded before it."

The treatment of Davidson and Nürnberg by Taylor is part of his analysis of three books which represent the upper level of the smotherout literature, and what he has written about them probably required more courage and integrity than was needed to produce his *Origins of the Second World War*. It is the first overt attack made by any historian, currently highly esteemed, on the smotherout attitudes and methods, and it may be hoped that it has set a healthy precedent. It is an invaluable and equally indispensable sequel to his *Origins*. So long as the smotherout prevails, Taylor's conclusions in that book about responsibility for the outbreak of World War II will be passed off as irrelevant antiquarianism, no matter how accurate..

While the smotherout deluges us with exaggerated examples of National Socialist savagery, there is no comparable interest in, or even knowledge of, the actual Allied barbarities, such as the Churchill-Lindemann program of saturation bombing of civilians, especially the homes of the working class, which was as brutal, ruthless, and lethal as anything alleged against the Germans. As Liddell Hart and others have made clear, Hitler had honestly sought a ban on all bombing of civilians apart from the accepted rules of siege warfare. The German bombing of Coventry and London took place long after Hitler failed to get Britain to consent to a ban on civilian bombing. The incendiary bombing of Hamburg and Tokyo and the needless destruction of Dresden are never cogently and frankly placed over against the doings, real or alleged, at Auschwitz. The atomizing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, completely needless to secure Japanese surrender, are all but forgotten, save when occasionally defended by former-President Truman or made the basis of a romantic moving picture.

Little or no mention is now made of the fifteen million Germans who were expelled from their eastern provinces, the Sudeten area, and other regions, at least four millions of them perishing in the process from butchery, starvation, and disease. This was the "final solution" for defeated Germans who fell into the hands of the victors and, interestingly enough, as Rassinier has made clear, it was identical with the "final solution" planned by Hitler and the National Socialists for the Jews, in the event that Germany won World War II. The smotherout legend represents the German plan as the extermination of all Jews that the Germans could lay their hands on. No authentic documents have been produced that support any such contention. The National Socialist "final solution" was a plan for the deportation of all Jews in their control at the end of the war, Madagascar being one place considered. Even if they had been victorious, the Germans could not have laid hands on more than half as many Jews as the number of Germans who were deported from their homelands.

The wholesale massacre of Polish officers and leaders at the Katyn Forest and elsewhere by the Russians, the exterminations and expulsions in the Baltic countries, and the rounding up of some millions of Russian soldiers and other anti-communist refugees in Germany after the war, to be turned back with Eisenhower's consent to Stalin for execution or the even worse enslavement in Russian starvation labor camps, are conveniently overlooked. Nor is anything said about the fact a Yugoslav scholar, Mihajlo Mihajlov, has recently, on the basis of Russian documents, disclosed that at least twelve million Russians passed through Stalin's concentration camps, with not more than half of them surviving. The intolerable Morgenthau Plan, approved by President Roosevelt, which envisaged the starvation of between twenty and thirty million Germans in the process of turning Germany back into an agricultural and pastoral nation, has now become no more than a subject for esoteric economic monographs. Only one adequate and accurate book of even this type, that by Nicholas Balabkins, *Germany Under Direct Controls* (1962), has so far appeared in English, and this has been unduly neglected or ignored.

Also overlooked today is the fact that virtually the entire Japanese population of the Pacific Coast were dragged out of their homes without provocation or the slightest need from the standpoint of our national security. The recent able and revealing book of Allan R. Bosworth, *American Concentration Camps* (1967), may redirect American and world attention to this scandalous episode, which was mainly the result of the brainstorm of Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson.

The above are a few of the facts and considerations that would have to be presented with adequate thoroughness in any World War II Revisionist book which could hope to counter the current smotherout pattern of anti-Revisionism.

Another obstacle lies in the fact that, as a result of brainwashing and indoctrination for a quarter of a century, the American public is not only ignorant of the facts involved in the smotherout approach but has lost much of the traditional national self-respect and public pride that controlled its reactions after the first World War. It remains my well-reasoned conviction, based on unexcelled experience, that the general acceptance of Revisionism in the late 1920's and the early 1930's was due more to public resentment at the "Uncle Shylock" slurs from abroad and the reneging of our former Allies with respect to the payment of their war debts than to all the Revisionist writings of the era.

This once-powerful impulse, arising from national pride, apparently no longer operates in this country: the American public has by now become thoroughly immune to the "Yanks Go Home" and comparable ungrateful epithets of our former Allies, and to the hostility and ingratitude of those who have taken our more than a hundred billion dollars in foreign aid and other public largesse since 1945, to say nothing of the previous lavish wartime aid.

When the Revisionists, after the first World War, revealed how we had been lied to by gentlemen in British intelligence and propaganda work, such as Sir Gilbert Parker, there was a considerable backwash and much public indignation. When H. Montgomery Hyde published his book, *Room 3603*, not only revealing but boasting of how we had been kicked around by Sir William Stephenson (the "Quiet Canadian") and his British intelligence goons, even to the extent of trying to break up anti-interventionist meetings in this country in 1940-1941, there was hardly a ripple. The book attracted little attention, was usually commended when noticed at all, and received virtually no shocked condemnation.

When the conflict was over, the American public warmly supported the exposure of the anti-German propaganda of the first World War, such as the Bryce Report, by Mock and Larson and others, but there has been no public or historical demand for an equally honest and searching investigation of the far more sweeping and debatable propaganda relative to alleged German barbarism during the second World War. Even to suggest the desirability of any such project would place the sponsor in professional, if not personal jeopardy.

Nor do we get any assistance or encouragement from the masochistic West Germans who, if anything, in their own blackout distortions and smotherout exceed the indictment of wartime Germany by their former enemies. This is the result of the German self-flagellation and self-immolation, in sharp contrast to the ardently Revisionist proclivities of the Weimar Republic. Nevertheless, but perhaps fittingly, the West Germans get little credit even for this craven attitude. There are surely abundant reasons why all of us who lived through the barbarities of the second World War and its aftermath should be ashamed of being members of the human race but certainly there is no sound basis for any unique German shame or self-flagellation.

History relative to the second World War has now become a public propaganda enterprise rather than a historical problem. It has passed from the investigation of documents and other traditional historical evidence into a frenzied public debate over extermination archeology, comparative biology, clinical pathology, and genocidal ethics, in which only one side has any decent opportunity to present its arguments and evidence. This diversified and confused conglomeration of fancy, myth, mendacity, vindictiveness, and fraudulently unilateral vengeance surely provides no safeguard against the development, increasing imminence, and destructive potential of a nuclear holocaust.

About the only rays of light and hope on the horizon for the moment are by-products of the Vietnam War. For the first time in all American history, except for the Mexican War landgrab, the liberals are not the shocktroops of the warmongers, and many are preponderantly "doves," notably the younger liberals or the "new left." This has encouraged many of them who, as a group, have been less subject to the World War II brainwashing, to look back over their shoulder at liberal bellicosity in the past and examine its validity more rationally. This has already made many of them sceptical about the impeccable soundness of interventionist propaganda and the historical blackout relative to the two world wars of this century. I have had more reasonably friendly and apparently honest inquiries about Revisionism in the last two years than in the previous twenty. This sceptical and inquiring attitude may grow; if so, it would have little patience with the assumptions, methods, and literature of the smotherout.

Even more promising and potentially helpful has been the growth of the "credibility gap" with reference to the Vietnam War, primarily the gap between what Charles Austin Beard once designated as "the appearances and the realities" of administration assertions and assurances about our official policies in entering, continuing, and escalating the war. This has especially impressed the liberal doves upon whom we must place our main hope in exposing and rebuffing the smotherout. Nothing would so quickly dissolve the smotherout as to apply to its attitudes and contentions the sceptical implications of the credibility gap. The smotherout would be hopelessly vulnerable to even a moderate application of the credibility-gap approach; it could fall apart quickly and hopelessly. Hence, we may appropriately, if with no premature assurance, welcome the growth of the credibility gap now being nursed and nourished by the Vietnam War.

May it grow, prosper, and dispel the smotherout, but its lessons should not all be derived from the statements and actions of the Johnson administration. It should lead those amenable to fact and reason to turn back to the credibility gap in the pre-war protestations of Wilson and Roosevelt, the latter being the most voluminous and impressive of all, and to the credibility gap in Truman's assertions about the necessity of bombing the Japanese cities and entering the Korean War, which even General Bradley designated as "the wrong war, in the wrong place, and at the wrong time." The credibility gap in the position and protestations of the cold warrior "hawks," as pointed out by D. F. Fleming, John Lukacs, F. L. Schuman, David Horowitz, Murray N. Rothbard, James J. Martin, and others, is even more grotesque and fictitious than that of the Johnson administration relative to Vietnam, but fortunately, it does not as yet possess full official status and authority.

Hence, let us hail the credibility gap, whether derived from the doves, the hawks, the cold warriors, or the Johnson administration and its predecessors. Its application to the smotherout provides the only hope on the horizon today of making Revisionism effective in gaining access to public opinion and policy and thus working for permanent peace.

Footnotes

1. *National Review*, 20 April 1965, pp335-336.
2. See *Select Bibliography of Revisionist Books*.
3. *Journal of Modern History*, March 1948, pp55-59.
4. Especially in the *Rampart Journal*, Spring 1966.
5. Broadcast then over the Goldman "Open Mind" Program, WNBC-TV, and rebroadcast on the "World Topic" program on 2 January 1967.
6. (Of course, Barnes is confused here by the difference between a "gas chamber" and a "gas oven." Shortly after writing this article, he came to reject the entire Holocaust myth, not just part of it.)
7. Especially many entries in *Look*, the latest being 21 March 1967, and in the *Saturday Evening Post*, see 22 October 1965, and series starting 25 February 1967.

Khatyn – Another Hoax

LOUIS FITZGIBBON

History, even current history, is full of lies. But largely because these falsehoods appear in printed form they are believed by many many people, and it is for this reason that the Institute for Historical Review is so vital. One such hoax is that of Khatyn—as opposed to Katyn.

On 3 July 1974 the British newspaper *Daily Telegraph* published the following article:

CONFUSION ON KHATYN AND KATYN

> President Nixon's visit to the memorial in the Byelorussian village of Khatyn has caused a mistaken impression that Russia has erected a memorial to the victims of the wartime massacre of Polish officers in the Katyn forest. In fact, Khatyn and Katyn are two entirely different places; Khatyn, in which the 'kh' is pronounced like the English 'h' is a small village some 30 miles to the north-east of Minsk, the capital of Byelorussia.
>
> Katyn, which is pronounced as written, is a town about 15 miles west of Smolensk, a provincial city in Russia proper. Khatyn is about 160 miles west of Katyn.
>
> When Stalin and Hitler divided up Poland at the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, some 240,000 Polish officers and men fell into Russian hands. After Hitler's invasion of Russia in June 1941, 15,000 were found to be missing and the Russians denied all knowledge of them.
>
> Katyn fell into German hands in the late summer of 1941 and at the beginning of 1943 the German army discovered a mass grave of 4,443 Polish officers and men.
>
> When the Polish Government-in-exile appealed for an international tribunal to determine how the Poles died Stalin broke off relations. After re-taking Katyn the Russians set up their own inquiry and said the Poles had been executed by the Germans.
>
> Later researches by Polish and independent authorities in the west, as well as wartime Foreign Office documents, leave no doubt that the Poles were executed by the Soviet secret police, the NKVD.
>
> The Russians have tried to erase Katyn from maps and history books. The reference to it in the 1953 edition of the *Soviet Encyclopedia* was dropped in the 1973 edition. No visitors are allowed to the area and no memorial has been erected.

> It was not until 1969 that the Russians announced the unveiling of a "memorial complex" on the site of the village of Khatyn. It was one of 9,200 Byelorussian villages destroyed by the Germans, and one of 136 of which all the inhabitants were killed.
>
> The Russians appear to have chosen Khatyn because of the similarity of its name to Katyn. They hoped in this way to obscure the fact they have erected no memorial to the victims of Katyn, which was no less a crime than the one committed at Khatyn.

Several things about this are interesting to note:

President Nixon was taken by the Soviets to Khatyn at the very time the Katyn Memorial Fund was fighting the Church of England for permission to erect the Katyn Memorial in London. The President's visit received wide publicity, the object so obviously being to occlude the issue and cause people to wonder, perhaps, why there was so much fuss in Britain to erect a memorial to the victims of Katyn when "one already existed in Russia."

A look at Soviet maps is also revealing:

1954 A map in the Minsk region in the *Great Soviet Encyclopedia* does not show Khatyn at all.

1956 A map of the Smolensk region in the *Great Soviet Encyclopedia* shows Katyn

1969 A large atlas of the USSR shows neither Khatyn nor Katyn

1971 A map of the Minsk region in the *Great Soviet Encyclopedia* shows Khatyn but not Katyn.

Further reflection shows that in 1954, that is to say after the findings of the U.S. select committee (of 1952) had been made known, there is no sign of Khatyn, while even in 1956 Khatyn is not shown. By 1969 neither place finds any reference in the atlas, whereas by 1974 Katyn has been erased and Khatyn makes an appearance. It can therefore be supposed that whereas for two decades the Soviets overlooked Katyn, they have since "corrected" this by producing Khatyn and obliterating Katyn. It should be noted that in cyrillic script "K" is written in ordinary script as "K," while "X" is the symbol of "kh" as we in the west read it.

It can only be that this extraordinary sleight-of-hand is a device to remove the real KATYN and substitute KHATYN in an attempt, albeit clumsy, yet further to distract and confuse the world as to the whereabouts of massive crimes committed by the Soviets and substitute another alleged crime to Nazi Germany.

Visitors to Russia are taken by the thousands to look at the "memorial complex" at Khatyn. There they can procure a well-produced booklet in six languages; the English version opens with these words:

> It is the only one in the world, this mournful mound of black marble. And fire, crimson tongues of flames, is burning at the place where one more birch tree could grow, cheerfully rustling . . . and may there never be more such graveyards on earth!

These pious words compare strangely with the current use of napalm and poison gas against simple Muslim tribesmen in Afghanistan!

In short. Khatyn is just an invention of the Soviets—like "détente" which fools so many people, but in which they wish to believe, for they fear the truth.

It may be appropriate here to refer to one of the *Hadith* (*Sayings of the Prophet Mohamed*) collected by Imam an-Nawawi (1233 to 1277) in which it is related:

> Whosoever of you sees evil action, let him change it with his hand; and if he is not able to do so, then with his tongue; and if he is not able to do so, with his heart—and that is the weakest of faith.

The Boer War Remembered

MARK WEBER

It took the mighty British Empire nearly three years, 1899-1902, to crush the Boers, a pioneering people who tried to build an independent nation for themselves in South Africa.

The Dutch, Huguenot and German ancestors of the Boers first settled the Cape of South Africa in 1652. After several earlier invasions, Britain took over the colony in 1814. Refusing to submit to foreign colonial rule and the takeover of their farms, 10,000 Boers left the Cape in 1836. They moved northwards in the Great Trek, first to Natal and then to the highlands where they set up the Orange Free State and the Transvaal Republic. The Boers (Dutch: "farmers") worked hard to build a new life for themselves. But they also had to fight to keep their republics free of British encroachments and safe from Bantu attacks.

Paul Kruger

Their great leader was Paul Kruger, an imposing, stubborn and deeply religious man. The bearded, patriarchal figure was beloved by his people who affectionately referred to him as "Oom Paul" (Uncle Paul). His utterly frank and straightforward manner sustained the morale of his people during the hard years of conflict. A contemporary observer described him as a "natural orator; rugged in speech, lacking in measured phrase and in logical balance; but passionate and convincing in the unaffected pleading of his earnestness." (Davit, p425. For full titles, see the bibliography.)

He died a blind and broken man in exile after giving his life for his cherished dream of a self-reliant, White, people's republic.

Gold and Diamonds

The discovery of gold at Witwatersrand in the Transvaal in 1886 sealed the doom of the hardy pioneer folk. Gold and diamonds drew foreigners ("uitlanders" or "outlanders") like a magnet.

As often happens in history, the origins of this war have been obscured behind clouds of emotional "patriotic" rhetoric and in bitterness over the savage slaughter and destruction. Many details in the background story of how this war began have come to light only years after the fighting had ended. A masterful work, *The Boer War,* for example, recently published by Random House, sheds further light on the dark origins of the shameful conflict. Author Thomas Pakenham dissects the conspiracy of British colonial officials and Jewish financiers to plunge South Africa into war.

The men who flocked to South Africa in search of wealth included the English diamond capitalist, Cecil Rhodes, and a collection of ambitious Jews who were to play a decisive role in fomenting the Boer war.

Barney Barnato, a dapper, vulgar fellow from London's East End, was the first of many Jews who have had a major impact on South African affairs. Working with Cecil Rhodes, he quickly amassed a fortune in gold, land speculation and diamonds. His empire controlled a labor force of 120,000 men. Through shrewd financial maneuvers Barnato seized control of De Beers Consolidated Mines in 1888 and thereby acquired a virtual monopoly of the world's diamond output. (Today, Harry Oppenheimer controls the De Beers cartel, which still sets world diamond prices, as well as the largest gold mining company and the most influential newspapers in South Africa.)

The most powerful South African financial house was Wernher, Beit & Co., which was controlled and run by a Jewish speculator from Germany named Alfred Beit. Cecil Rhodes relied heavily on support from Beit, whose close ties to the Rothschilds and the Dresdner Bank made it possible for Rhodes to acquire his diamond fortune (Flint, pp86-93; and Emden).

Beit and Lionel Phillips, a Jewish millionaire from England, together controlled H. Eckstein & Co., the largest South African mining syndicate. Of the six largest mining companies, four were controlled by Jews (Saron, pp193-4). The Jewish stake in the Boer lands was not limited to gold and diamonds. One year before the war began, a daughter company of the Beit, Phillips conglomerate held some two million acres of the most valuable agricultural land in the Transvaal Republic (*Jews*, p79).

By 1894, Beit and Phillips were conspiring behind the backs of Briton and Boer alike to "improve" the Transvaal parliament with tens of thousands of pounds in bribe money. In one case, Beit and Phillips spent 25,000 pounds to arrange settlement of an important issue before the *Volksraad* (*Report*, pp165, 167).

The Jameson Raid

In 1895, over 500 British adventurers tried to seize control of the Boer republics by staging the "unofficial" Jameson Raid into the Transvaal. Rhodes organized the venture, which Beit financed to the tune of 200,000 pounds. Although the raid failed, it convinced the Boers that the British were determined to take away their hard-won independence. The blood of those who died in the abortive raid also baptized the alliance of Jewish finance and British imperialism (Saron, pp193-94; *Second*, pvii).

Transvaal authorities arrested Phillips for his part in organizing the raid. They found incriminating secret correspondence between Phillips and co-conspirators Beit and Rhodes which encouraged Phillips to confess his guilt. A special Transvaal court condemned Phillips to death for his crimes, but following British protests, the sentence was commuted to a fine of 25,000 pounds. Later, after returning to Britain, the Jewish financier was knighted for his services to the Empire and during the First World War was given a high post in the Ministry of Munitions.

Conspiracy For War

Undaunted by the Jameson Raid fiasco, Sir Alfred Milner, the British High Commissioner for South Africa, began secretly to foment a full-scale war which would bring the wealth of the Boer lands completely into the Empire. The secret alliance between Milner and the "gold bugs" of Wernher-Beit gave Milner the backing needed to precipitate war.

To hide his plans, the British Commissioner treacherously agreed to "negotiate" with Kruger over the status of the "uitlanders." Milner demanded immediate citizenship rights for the flood of foreigners who had poured into the Boer republics. President Paul Kruger responded with bitterness and anger: "It is our country you want!" The talks finally broke down, just as Milner had intended. Even after the war began, Milner did everything to prevent a compromise peace. Like the victorious powers of the Second World War, he insisted on unconditional surrender—and he got it. During the phony "negotiations," Lord Kitchener, the famous British warlord, privately admitted to a friend that a major obstacle to complete British takeover was the fact that the Boers were "afraid of getting into the hands of certain Jews who no doubt wield great influence in the country" (Pakenham, p518).

Boer fears were well grounded. While the "negotiations" were underway, Wernher, Beit & Co. was secretly financing an "outlander" army of 1,500 which eventually grew to 10,000.

Growing War Fever

Back in Britain, the leading newspapers, especially those owned by Jews, pushed for war. The Jewish-controlled papers included the influential conservative organ, *The Daily Telegraph*, owned by Lord Burnham (born Edward Levy), Oppenheim's *Daily News*, Marks' *Evening News*, and Steinkopf's *St. James Gazette* (Hirshfield, p4).

Resistance in Britain to the growing orchestrated campaign of war hysteria came from the political left. The Social Democratic Federation (SDF), led by Henry M. Hyndman, was especially outspoken in its opposition to the war preparations. *Justice*, the SDF weekly, warned its readers in 1896 that "Beit, Barnato and their fellow-Jews" were aiming for "an Anglo-Hebraic Empire in Africa stretching from Egypt to Cape Colony," designed to swell their "overgrown fortunes." Since 1890, the SDF had repeatedly cautioned against the pernicious influence of "capitalist Jews on the London press." When war broke out in 1899, *Justice* declared that the "Semitic lords of the press" had successfully propagandized Britain into a "criminal war of aggression" (Hirshfield, pp5, 15).

The boundless greed of the Jewish "gold bugs" coincided with the imperialistic schemes of British Colonial Secretary Joseph Chamberlain, the dreams of diamond speculator Cecil Rhodes, and the political ambitions of Alfred Milner. On the altar of their avarice and ambition, they sacrificed the lives of tens of thousands of people who wanted only to live in freedom.

The Forced War

Britain dispatched troops to South Africa in preparation for war. Kruger gave an ultimatum demanding their withdrawal. After Britain refused, the Boer republics declared war.

Although outnumbered, the morale of the Boer freedom fighter was good. He was fighting on territory he knew well. More importantly, he was fighting for his land, his freedom and his way of life. Mounted on horseback, he didn't look anything like a typical soldier. He wore a "uniform" of rough farming clothes. He usually had a long beard, wore a wide-brimmed hat, and slung belts of bullets over both shoulders.

But after a year and a half of struggle, the Boers were forced to give up all large towns and main rail lines to the enemy. Still, they refused to capitulate and began a guerilla war against the occupation army. The Boer commandos, outnumbered about four to one, but supported by an entire people and striking without warning, were able to prevent the enemy from controlling the country he had occupied.

Lord Kitchener, the British commander, now changed tactics to "clean up" a war which most considered already won. He ordered a new kind of war—a war of total destruction and ruthlessness against a whole people. That meant destroying all livestock and crops, burning down the Boer farms and herding the women and children into concentration camps. Reports about these camps shocked the entire civilized world.

Total War

The British system of waging war was summarized in a report made in January 1902 by Boer General J. C. Smuts, later Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa:

"Lord Kitchener has begun to carry out a policy in both (Boer) republics of unbelievable barbarism and gruesomeness which violates the most elementary principles of the international rules of war.

"Almost all farmsteads and villages in both republics have been burned down and destroyed. All crops have been destroyed. All livestock which has fallen into the hands of the enemy has been killed or slaughtered.

"The basic principle behind Lord Kitchener's tactics has been to win, not so much through direct operations against fighting commandos, but rather indirectly by bringing the pressure of war against defenseless women and children.

". . . This violation of every international law is really very characteristic of the nation which always plays the role of chosen judge over the customs and behavior of all other nations."

Even in Britain, prominent voices began speaking out against the slaughter. Lloyd George, who later served as Prime Minister during the First World War, vehemently denounced the carnage. During a speech in Parliament on 18 February 1901, he quoted from a letter by a British officer:

"We move from valley to valley, lifting cattle and sheep, burning and looting, and turning out women and children to weep in despair beside the ruin of their once beautiful homesteads."

Lloyd George commented: "It is a war not against men, but against women and children."

Another future Prime Minister, Henry Campbell-Bannerman, declared in Parliament on 14 June 1901: "When is a war not a war? When it is waged in South Africa by methods of barbarism."

Michael Davitt even resigned as a member of the House of Commons in "personal and political protest against a war which I believe to be the greatest infamy of the nineteenth century."

John Dillon, an Irish Nationalist Member of Parliament, spoke out against the British policy of shooting Boer prisoners of war. On 26 February 1901, he made public a letter by a British officer in the field:

"The orders in this district from Lord Kitchener are to burn and destroy all provisions, forage, etc., and seize cattle, horses, and stock of all sorts wherever found, and to leave no food in the houses of the inhabitants. And the word has been passed round privately that no prisoners are to be taken. That is, all the men found fighting are to be shot. This order was given to me personally by a general, one of the highest in rank in South Africa. So there is no mistake about it. The instructions given to the columns closing round De Wet north of the Orange River are that all men are to be shot so that no tales may be told. Also, the troops are told to loot freely from every house, whether the men belonging to the house are fighting or not."

Dillon read from another letter by a soldier which had been published in the *Liverpool Courier:* "Lord Kitchener has issued orders that no man has to bring in any Boer prisoners. If he does, he has to give him half his rations for the prisoner's keep." Dillon quoted a third letter by a soldier serving with the Royal Welsh Regiment and published in the *Wolverhampton Express and Star:* "We take no prisoners now . . . There happened to be a few wounded Boers left. We put them through the mill. Every one was killed."

As an Irishman, Dillon's denunciation of the war carried special meaning. While British troops brutally robbed the Boers of their national freedom in South Africa, the British government also held the people of Southern Ireland under colonial rule against their will.

On 20 January 1902, Dillon once again expressed his outrage in Parliament against Britain's "wholesale violation of one of the best recognized usages of modern war, which forbids you to desolate or devastate the country of the enemy and destroy the food supply on such a scale as to reduce non-combatants to starvation."

"What would have been said by civilized mankind," Dillon asked, "if Germany on her march on Paris [in 1870] had turned the whole country into a howling wilderness and concentrated the French women and children into camps where they died in thousands? All civilized Europe would have rushed in to the rescue" (Ziegler, p199).

Exposing the Warmakers

No member of the House of Commons spoke out more vigorously against the Jewish-capitalist nature of the war than John Burns, Labour M.P. for Battersea. The former SDF member gained national prominence as a dauntless defender of the British workingman during his leadership of the dockworkers' strike of 1889.

"Wherever we examine, there is the financial Jew," Burns declared in the House on 6 February 1900, "operating, directing, inspiring the agencies that have led to this war."

"The trail of the financial serpent is over this war from beginning to end." The British army, Burns said, had traditionally been the "Sir Galahad of History." But in Africa it had become the "janissary of the Jews."

Burns was a legendary fighter for the rights of the British worker, a tireless champion of environmental reform, women's rights and improved municipal services. Even Cecil Rhodes had referred to Burns as "the most eloquent leader of the British democracy."

And yet, Burns did not oppose the Jews merely as capitalists. He considered them dangerous on racial grounds. To his diary he confided that "the undoing of England is within the confines of our afternoon journey amongst the Jews" of East London (Hirshfield, pp10, 20).

Opposition to the war was strong in the British labor movement. In September 1900, the Trades Union Congress passed a resolution condemning the Boer war as one designed "to secure the gold fields of South Africa for cosmopolitan Jews, most of whom had no patriotism and no country" (Hirshfield, pp11, 20).

One of the most influential campaigners against the "Jew-imperialist design" in South Africa was a journalist named John Hobson. He had been sent to report first hand on the Boer war by the *Manchester Guardian* in 1899. During his three month investigation, Hobson became convinced that a small group of Jewish "Randlords" was essentially responsible for the conflict (Hirshfield, pp13, 23; Hobson, p189).

Hobson's persuasive analysis of the forces behind the conflict was entitled *The War in South Africa*. He warned and admonished his fellow countrymen: "We are fighting in order to place a small international oligarchy of mine-owners and speculators in power at Pretoria. Englishmen will surely do well to recognize that the economic and political destinies of South Africa are, and seem likely to remain, in the hands of men most of whom are foreigners by origin, whose trade is finance, and whose trade interests are not chiefly British" (Hobson, p197).

Anti-imperialist and working-class circles enthusiastically acclaimed Hobson's widely read work. Commenting on the book, the *Labour Leader*, semi-official organ of the Independent Labour Party, noted: "Modern imperialism is really run by half a dozen financial houses, many of them Jewish, to whom politics is a counter in the game of buying and selling securities" (Hirshfield, pp13, 23).

Concentration Camps

A crusading English lady, Emily Hobhouse, alerted the world to the horrors of the camps. "In some camps," she reported, "two and sometimes three different families live in one tent. Ten and even twelve persons are forced into a single tent." Most had to sleep on the ground.

"These people will never ever forget what has happened," Hobhouse declared. "The children have been the hardest hit. They wither in the terrible heat and as a result of insufficient and improper nourishment. . . To maintain this kind of camp means nothing less than murdering children."

The British held 116,572 persons in their concentration camps, almost all of them women and children. That was about a fourth of the entire Boer population. After the war, an official government report concluded that 27,927 Boers had died in the camps of starvation, typhus and exposure. That included 26,251 women and children, of whom 22,074 were children under the age of 16.

Emily Hobhouse found that none of their hardships, not even seeing their own hungry children die before their eyes, would shake the Boer women's determination. They 'never express," Hobhouse wrote, "a wish that their men must give way. It must be fought out now, they think, to the bitter end."

Africans Armed

Kitchener gave rifles to the native Bantus. The British eventually armed about 10,000 marauding Blacks, but the policy was kept secret from the people back home.

No wonder. This was the first time in history that Europeans had given weapons to Negroes with orders to kill fellow Whites. Although they proved poor soldiers, the primitive Blacks murdered and slaughtered defenseless Boer women and children across the countryside. The fate of the women and children who escaped the living hell of the camps was often more horrible than that of those who did not.

In his January 1902 report, General Smuts describes how the British recruited the Bantus:

"In the Cape Colony the uncivilized Blacks have been told that if the Boers win, slavery will be brought back in the Cape Colony. They have been promised Boer property and farmsteads if they will join the English; that the Boers will have to work for the Blacks, and that they will be able to marry Boer women."

Arming the Blacks, Smuts said, "represents the greatest crime which has ever been perpetrated against the White race in South Africa."

Winston Churchill

The war did help the career of at least one person, however. In the midst of the destruction, a young journalist named Winston Churchill supplied readers of the London *Morning Post* back home with morale-boosting stories of the exploits of Her Majesty's soldiers.

As the years went by, the well-publicized story of Churchill's capture by the Boers, internment as a prisoner of war, and escape was embellished and radically altered in his favor.

Defeat

After thirty-three months of fanatic struggle, with their land almost entirely under enemy occupation, threatened with total annihilation and finally outnumbered six to one, the Boers were forced to surrender in May 1902.

Summary

In a very real sense, the Boer war was no war at all, but rather a military campaign of mass murder. While over 26,000 Boer women and children died in the concentration camps, only 6,189 Boer fighting men died of all causes during the war. In fact, more children under the age of 16 perished in the British camps than men were killed in action on both sides.

As usually happens after a war is over, the suffering of the loser is forgotten. Like the losers of the Second World War, the Boers had no International Military Tribunal which they could use to punish the victors for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

It took the largest empire in the world almost three years, some 350,000 soldiers and 22,000 dead to crush a tough pioneer people of less than half a million. That extraordinary tenacity is worth keeping in mind when reading predictions of how the Boers of today, the Afrikaners of South Africa, will give up control of their country as easily as did the Whites of Rhodesia.

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Death From On High

CHARLES LUTTON

BOMBER COMMAND: THE MYTHS AND REALITY OF THE STRATEGIC BOMBING OFFENSIVE 1939-45 by Max Hastings. New York, The Dial Press/James Wade, 1979. 469pp with Notes, Appendices, Illustrations, Bibliography, Index. $14.00 from IHR. ISBN: 0-8037-0154-X.

One of the most controversial campaigns of the Second World War was the bombing offensive against Germany. British, and to a lesser extent American, air commanders believed that Germany could be defeated by bombing alone. Max Hastings, a distinguished British war correspondent, has written a masterful history of the British Bomber Command, based upon recently released official records, unpublished letters, diaries and manuscripts, and interviews of former aircrew, senior officers and government officials.

After the First World War, air power captured the imagination of military theorists, such as Giulio Douhet in Italy, Billy Mitchell in the United States, and Hugh Trenchard in Britain. Only the British, under the leadership of Trenchard, fully accepted the notion that there was virtually no limit to the independent use of bomber aircraft in future wars, which could be used to blast any any opponent into submission. From the outset of its existence, the Royal Air Force was fashioned to conduct strategic area terror bombing.[1]

A corollary of the Trenchard Bomber Doctrine was that defense was useless because, as Stanley Baldwin reminded Parliament in 1932, "the bomber will always get through." Although the British devoted few funds to research and development for the RAF during the inter-war period, the government was shocked when the C-in-C of Bomber Command, Sir Edgar Ludlow-Hewitt, informed his superiors in July 1939 that their front-line bombers had been made obsolete by the development of monoplane fighters armed with cannons and machineguns. British bombers lacked speed, adequate defensive armament, bombs large enough to sufficiently damage targets, and navigation equipment to enable planes to locate targets hundreds of miles away. After the outbreak of hostilities it was discovered that British bombers tended to burn easily when attacked by enemy aircraft.

During the war the bomber offensive went through three phases. The first, from 1939 to early 1940, was characterized by ineffective attacks against military targets. Daylight sorties were found to be almost suicidal when intercepted by German fighters, while Bomber Command was incapable of locating targets at night. Hastings cites the experience of the 10th Bomber Squadron, based in Yorkshire, which mistook the Thames estuary for the Rhine and bombed an RAF station at Bassingbourn in Cambridgeshire, doing little damage. As the author explains, "again and again at this period, Germany would be genuinely unaware that Bomber Command had been attempting to attack a specific target or even a specific region. There was merely a litter of explosives on farms, homes, lakes, forests and—occasionally—on factories and installations from end to end of the Reich."

In June 1940, after the fall of France, the bomber offensive entered its second phase. Rejecting out of hand any suggestions for a negotiated peace settlement, Churchill felt there was little else to do besides bomb Germany. A year later, the Cabinet Secretary, D.M. Butt, presented a critique of the effectiveness of Bomber Command against targets in France and Germany. He reported that less than one-third of the attacks came within five miles of the aiming point and only ten per cent of the bombs fell within the target area. A.V. Hill, one of the founding fathers of British radar and a Member of Parliament, informed his colleagues that great resources were being squandered on Bomber Command and "the idea of bombing a well-defended enemy into submission or seriously affecting his morale—of even doing substantial damage to him—is an illusion. We know that most of the bombs we drop hit nothing of importance."

Despite the fact that the Butt Report had clearly exposed the bankruptcy of Trenchard's strategic bombing theory, in late 1941 the British decided to expand the bomber offensive by ordering attacks against urban areas in Germany, since the

RAF was incapable of hitting military targets with precision. The authors of the official British history, Sir Charles Webster and Dr. Noble Frankland, have argued that by late 1941 there were only two choices left to Churchill, area bombing or no bombing at all.

Hastings rejects that specious assertion and points out alternatives, a third choice being "to persist in the face of whatever difficulties, in attempting to hit precision targets" and a "fourth and more realistic alternative: faced by the fact that Britain's bombers were incapable of a precision campaign, there was no compulsion upon the Government to authorize the huge bomber programme that was now to be undertaken. Aircraft could have been transferred to the Battle of the Atlantic and the Middle and Far East where they were so urgently needed, and many British strategists would have wholeheartedly defended the decision to move them . . . There were alternatives to the area campaign, albeit at great cost to the *amour propre* of the RAF."

In any event, the bomber offensive entered its third phase. On 14 February 1942, the Air Ministry issued a directive authorizing unrestricted area bombing. Churchill's repulsive scientific adviser, Lord Cherwell, provided the final rationalization for the campaign, by claiming that the "dehousing" of the German workers and their families would doubtlessly "break the spirit of the people." The Chief of Air Staff, Sir Charles Portal, reminded his Deputy on 15 February, "Ref. the new bombing directive: I suppose it is clear that the aiming-points are to be built-up areas, not, for instance, the dockyards or aircraft factories . . . This must be made quite clear if it is not already understood." Sir Arthur Harris, a fanatical proponent of area bombing, was appointed the new head of Bomber Command.

The first target of the new phase was the old North German town of Lübeck. It was not a place of any military or industrial importance to the Germans and so was lightly defended. But Harris had been "searching for an area target that they could find, strike, and utterly destroy." Lübeck was thus chosen, says Hastings, because "above all it was an old, closely-packed medieval town that would burn far better than the spacious avenues of any modern metropolis . . .

Lübeck, then, did not attract attention because it was important, but became important because it could be burned."

Aided by the new navigation device Gee, Bomber Command "browned" (the RAF euphemism for burning a town) Lübeck on 28 March 1942 and a month later gave the same treatment to another medieval town, Rostock. The bombers tried out what became the standard pattern for attacking a city: flares were dropped to mark the target, then 4,000 pound high-explosive "cookies" were used to blast open doors and windows, accompanied by incendiaries to create huge fires. Characteristically, whatever industry was located in Lübeck and Rostock was back at near full production within days, since factories were located on the outskirts of cities, or in the suburbs, far from the town centers, which were the aiming points of Bomber Command raids.

The author reminds his readers of the great public relations impact of many Bomber Command operations, such as the thousand-plane raids Harris launched, starting with the attack on Cologne on 30 May 1942. There was no military reason why over 1,000 RAF bombers had to be sent, but it did capture the imagination of the British public. As Hastings remarks, "the Prime Minister, with his great sense of theatre, was won over immediately. Only the Admiralty, in the midst of the Battle of the Atlantic, were exasperated by such gimmicky enterprises as they struggled to fight their convoys through."

At the Casablanca Conference in January 1943, the Allies decided to delay the cross-Channel invasion of Western Europe until the Spring of 1944. Harris and General Carl Spaatz, commander of the 8th U.S. Army Air Force in Europe, believed they could defeat Germany without a land invasion by air attacks. [2] Bomber Command increased the tempo and destructive power of its attacks on German cities throughout 1943 and early 1944.

It was also at Casablanca where the Allies declared their policy of "Unconditional Surrender," which nullified any effect bomber raids might have had in undermining German morale and bringing the war to an end. Britain's flak defence chief, General Sir Frederick Pile, told B.H. Liddell Hart that, "Winston is pinning all his faith to the bombing offensive now. The devastation it causes suits his temperament, and he would be disappointed at a less destructive ending to the war."[3]

Bomber Command was not short of informed critics. Within policy circles the service departments and scientists attacked Harris's operations on strategic and practical grounds. It has been estimated that one-third of Britain's industrial capacity was committed to Bomber Command, along with the best of their high technology. Because of the vast resources consumed by Bomber Command, the British had to import vast quantities of war material (such as tanks, trucks, landing craft, etc.) from the United States. In human terms, 7,448 Bomber Command aircrew had died between September 1939 and February 1942. From the time Harris took charge of the expanded bombing operations until the end of the war, an additional 56,000 commissioned officers and NCOs lost their lives, more officers than the British lost during World War I.

Civilian opponents of Bomber Command comprised an articulate, though tiny, minority. One group, The Bombing Restriction Committee, distributed leaflets headlined "STOP BOMBING CIVILIANS." George Bell, Bishop of Chichester, was probably denied elevation to the Archbishopric of Canterbury because of his opposition to area bombing. Hastings goes on to discuss the opposition by Britain's leading military theorists, J.F.C. Fuller and B.H. Liddell Hart, but emphasizes that these distinguished critics had no impact upon policy.[4]

Hastings skillfully assembles a wide-range of material in his chapter examining conditions within Germany from 1940-1944. Like Burton Klein and Alan Milward, the author dispells the myth that Hitler had armed Germany to the teeth with a centrally-directed totalitarian economy.[5] Hitler had rearmed the Wehrmacht in breadth, not depth, and unlike the Allies, sought to employ the *minimum* possible resources to achieve a given objective. Germany did not begin full economic mobilization until 1943, and at the end of that year six million workers were still employed in consumer industries.

Because of the slack that existed in the German economy, Arms Minister Albert Speer was able to vastly increase military production, despite the mounting ferocity of bomber attacks in 1943 and 1944. "The morale of the German people remained unbroken to the end," Hastings points out, even though Bomber Command "destroyed centuries of construction and culture."

The author also provides a good analysis of the problems faced by German home defense forces. The Luftwaffe was commanded by the incompetent Hermann Göring and a coherent strategy to combat Allied bombing raids was never devised. Only a relatively modest portion of the Luftwaffe's resources were earmarked for night-fighters and home defense in general. Hitler did not authorize a freeze on costly bomber production and a concentration on fighters until June 1944. It is likely that even a slightly larger investment in home defense forces could have brought the bomber offensive to an abrupt halt by the end of 1943.

Bomber Command launched a massive series of assaults against the Ruhr, Hamburg, and Berlin during 1943 and early 1944. Thousands of acres were burned and hundreds of thousands of Germans were killed. The RAF lost over 4,100 bombers. Yet German arms production increased. Harris nevertheless claimed on 7 December 1943, that he could bring about a German collapse by 1 April 1944.

The first real breakthrough in the bomber offensive occurred in the Spring of 1944, when U.S. long-range Mustang fighters became available in large numbers. Mustangs escorted USAAF bombers on daylight raids against synthetic oil plants, the Achilles Heel of the German war economy. The cream of the Luftwaffe's experienced fighter pilots were lost in the war of attrition waged by the Americans. From June through August 1944, the total percentage of U.S. bombing efforts against oil targets never exceeded 17 per cent of their total bombs dropped, but the results were a catastrophe for the Germans. By the late summer of 1944, little fuel was available to power the thousands of tanks and planes (including jet fighters and bombers) Speer's factories were producing.

Harris had been forced to suspend his area attacks in April 1944 and Bomber Command had directed its efforts to providing tactical support for the invasion of France. In July, the

British called for a renewed "all-out attack by every means at our disposal on German civilian morale." Attacks on oil plants were dismissed by Harris as "merely the latest in the long line of 'panacea targets' with which so many knaves and fools sought to divert him from the task of destroying Germany."

Spaatz ordered additional attacks on Germany's oil plants and transportation network in September 1944. Bomber Command stepped up its devastation of German cities. Hastings devotes a revealing chapter to describe the destruction of Darmstadt on the night of 11/12 September, which was typical of the sort of targets remaining to the British by that date. Darmstadt was another classic representative of German culture which produced less than two-tenths of one percent of Germany's total production and an infinitesimal amount of its war production. A minimum of ten per cent of Darmstadt's population died as a result of the firestorm that was created and a Russian POW camp was totally destroyed. Over-all, industries located in the area lost about two weeks production.

Between January and May 1945, Harris very reluctantly allowed 26 per cent of Bomber Command's attacks to be directed against Germany's remaining oil facilities, while he continued to concentrate his resources on area bombing. On 13/14 February, Dresden was torched. Interestingly, this touched off the first general wave of negative reaction against area bombing. An Associated Press dispatch reported that the "Allied air chiefs" had begun "deliberate terror bombing of German population centers. . ." General Marshall claimed, falsely, that Dresden had been bombed at the request of the Soviets. Churchill, who with Portal had ordered the attack, tried to cover his involvement and on 28 March 1945, drafted a memo to the Chiefs of Staff in which he criticized the destruction of Dresden and called "for more precise concentration upon military objectives, such as oil and communications behind the immediate battle-zone, rather than on mere acts of terror and wanton destruction, however impressive." Hastings composes a remarkable portrait of Churchill and spares nothing in exposing the crucial role played in the terror bombing by that great mountebank.

Max Hastings' *Bomber Command* is an important contribution to our understanding of World War II. As he notes in his final chapter assessing the work of the strategic bomber offensive, the two positive achievements were made by the Americans: the defeat of the Luftwaffe by Mustang fighters, and the campaign to destroy Germany's synthetic oil industry. But, he concludes, "the cost of the bomber offensive in life, treasure and moral superiority over the enemy tragically outstripped the results that it achieved."

FOOTNOTES

1. For an overview contrasting the development of air power in Britain and Germany in the inter-war period, see Williamson Murray, "British and German Air Doctrine Between the Wars," *Air University Review* (March-April 1980) pp39-57.
2. On the American contribution to the bombing offensive in the European theater, see Thomas Coffey, *Decision Over Schweinfurt*, New York, McKay, 1977.
3. Britain's outstanding military theorists, Maj. Gen. J. F. C. Fuller and Capt. B. H. Liddell Hart both recognized the futility of the "Unconditional Surrender" policy. See Liddell Hart, *The Second World War* , New York, Putnams, 1972, and Fuller, *The Conduct of War, 1789-1961*, New York, Minerva Press, 1961. Fuller pointed out that Churchill was at first enthusiastic about "unconditional surrender" but changed his mind and in a cable to his Foreign Secretary dated 9 August 1943 advised, "Merely harping on 'unconditional surrender' with no prospect of mercy. . . may well lead to no surrender at all," Fuller, *The Conduct of War*, p287.
4. For a useful discussion of the opposition to area bombing in Britain and the United States, see James J. Martin's essay, "The Bombing and Negotiated Peace Questions—in 1944," *Revisionist Viewpoints*, Colorado Springs, Ralph Myles Publisher, 1971, available in pb at $4.00 from the Institute for Historical Review.
5. See Burton Klein, *Germany's Economic Preparations for War*, Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press, 1959, and Alan Milward, *The German Economy at War*, London, London University, 1965. Hastings cites Milward, but not Klein's classic study.

Auschwitz Notebook

Ditlieb Felderer

Lids & Openings

Let us now examine the various claims made about the "lids and openings" in the ceilings of the "gas chambers" and compare the allegations with the forensic reality, and with each other.

We notice first of all that here, as with other such matters, an evolutionary process is in progress. At first the allegations were vague and simple, and it was only later on that the descriptions became twisted and elaborated.

The earliest reference I can trace to lids is in Rudolf Höss' affidavit at Nürnberg of 5 April 1946, where he grunted his agreement to the following:

> So when I set up the extermination building at Auschwitz, I used Zyklon B, which was crystallized Prussic Acid which we dropped into the death chamber from a small opening.

Note here that the very "architect of death" refers to Auschwitz (not Birkenau) and one small opening (not several). I will deal with these remarks in greater depth later, but just let me point out that today the Auschwitz "gas chamber" has not one hole in the ceiling, but several.

The next "testimony" we ought to examine is that of Kurt Gerstein, the sanitation officer who allegedly made several confessions about gassing before disappearing and/or killing himself, depending on which source one refers to. His "confessions" were introduced at the Nürnberg Trial, despite the fact that Gerstein himself could not be produced to attest to the authenticity of his affidavit, nor to be cross-examined. This gross infringement of normal jurisprudence and rules of evidence does not seem to bother the Exterminationist lobby, who delight in vaunting the Gerstein document as "proof" of gassings. Both the Revisionist Rassinier, and the Exterminationist Reitlinger are mistaken when they say that the Gerstein document was thrown out by the Nürnberg court. Butz reproduces it in his appendix A, and it is truly a wonder to behold. This "sanitation engineer" gives no description whatever of the actual mechanics of gassing operations.

Next, we turn back to Höss to see how he elaborated on his "small opening" in his supposed "autobiography" which was written in a Polish prison during the time of his own trial. The English version was translated by the Exterminationist Constantine FitzGibbon, the half-brother of the Revisionist Louis FitzGibbon.

Höss relates how the Auschwitz gas chamber was relocated from the basement of Block 11 to the **mortuary of the crematorium adjacent to the hospital.** (As Dr. Robert Faurisson points out, the so-called "Auschwitz gas chamber" **is** only a mortuary, with a few bits added to fool gullible tourists.) The reason for the re-location, we are told, is because the whole of Block 11 had to be ventilated after a gassing. We are not told by Höss why the whole of the mortuary-crematorium-hospital complex did **not** have to ventilated after a gassing. Auschwitz guides claim that this was because there was mechanical ventilation at the new location, but there is no evidence of any such fixtures today.

Höss tells us now that "some holes had been pierced in the ceiling through which the gas could be discharged" (93: p209). In other words, from the singular, small opening, we now have "some holes."

Now, there are so many discrepancies between the various language editions of Höss's "Autobiography" that we now have to refer to the German edition to get to the root of this next problem. On page 50 of the 1978 German edition, published by the Auschwitz Museum, Höss attempts to describe the gassing operation. He says "dann wurden die Türen schnell verschraubt" ("then the doors were quickly screwed tight"). It is not clear whether he is talking about Auschwitz or Birkenau at this point; there is only one door at each of the two Birkenau "gas chambers," while that at Auschwitz-proper does have several, plus one doorway to the crematoria **with no door.** (We are still trying to find out why the gassees did not just run out of this doorless doorway into the crematory and escape! Not to mention how come the gas did not just flow out and gas the crematory workers, or explode with the crematory heat!) None of the doors—either at Auschwitz or at Birkenau—exhibit facilities for "screwing tight."

He goes on to describe the "Öffnungen in die Decke" ("holes in the ceiling") which were "mit einem Fallrohr verbunden" ("connected to a pipe/tube/shaft") "dass das Gas bis den Boden fiel" ("which allowed the gas (*sic*) to fall to the floor").

Here we have one of the few actual descriptions of the mechanics of the gassing operation. Needless to say, we could find no such tubes, pipes or shafts at any of the locations cited, nor any trace that such had been there.

Höss also tells us that the gas chambers were "furnished with showers and water pipes and gave a realistic impression of a bath house" (93, p223). But again, none of the installations we have inspected have such dummy plumbing.

Höss's allegation about the plumbing is echoed by Eugen Kogon in *The Theory & Practice of Hell (58)*, but with the variation that the shower-heads issued forth with the gas. It is not quite clear whether or not he means that the shower-heads also sometimes functioned as real showers.

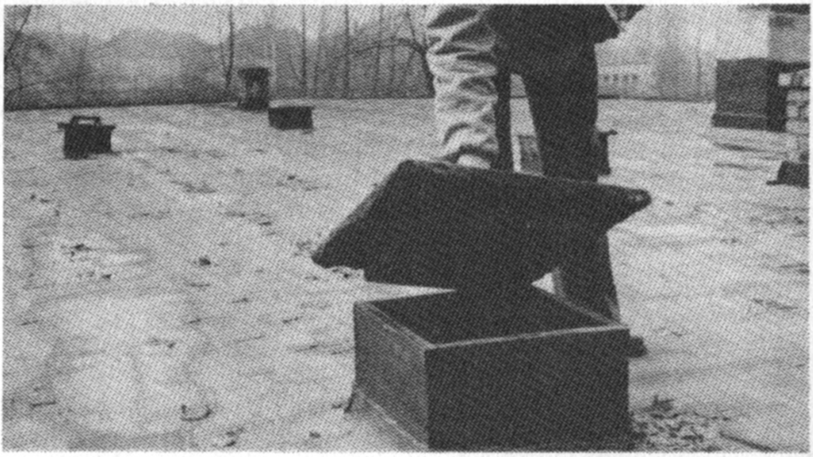
> From the dressing-rooms the way led directly to the "bath" where hydrocyanic gas was admitted through the shower heads and ventilator outlets as soon as the doors had been closed. (58; p237)

We will deal with this question of fake shower-heads in a later article. Bishop Neuhäusler of Munich has even alleged that Dachau had fake shower-heads, even though all the Exterminationists agree that no gassings occurred at Dachau (71).

According to the so-called Holocaust expert (and wealthy art-dealer) Gerald Reitlinger (91), the "super gas chambers of Auschwitz" had openings on the roof with "mushroom-like concrete objects" spaced "at regular intervals." Inside there were "shafts" made of "sheetmetal" which looked like "columns" which were "perforated." After unscrewing the mushrooms on the roof, the Germans would tip the "amethyst-blue crystals" down the shafts, and the gas "escaped from the perforations in the sheetmetal." Filip Müller describes basically the same structure inside the gas chamber.

Yet our own thorough investigations at both Auschwitz and Birkenau have produced no such "perforated sheetmetal columns" nor any trace that there had ever been such objects there.

Another interesting problem which confronts us is that we are told that the whole process went on in secret, and that the gassees were tricked into the gas chambers. But it is evident both from the models on display at the Auschwitz Museum, and from the physical layout of Birkenau itself, that the people entering the dressing rooms would have caught in full view the frightening sight of men wearing gas masks and



This is one of the lids on top of the Auschwitz "gas chamber." (Photo taken from Wilhelm Stäglich's excellent book *Der Auschwitz Mythos,* alas available only in German from Grabert Verlag in Tübingen, West Germany.) It doesn't look much like a "shower-head" (numerous authors) or like a "zinc mushroom which is screwed tight" (Reitlinger *et al.*). It looks to us more like a rather shoddy Polish post-war carpentry job. Maybe the Polish Exterminationist authorities should pay a visit to Disneyland; they might get some tips on making things more realistic!

rubber boots emptying the Zyklon B into the openings on the roof, where the "mushroom-like lids" had to be "methodically unscrewed."

The next "expert" we turn to is Edward Crankshaw (pseudonym?), who relates in *Gestapo Instrument of Tyranny* that:

> Naked and shorn, the prisoners were marched to the gas-chambers, some of which were sunk in the ground, others on the same level as the crematoria which disposed of the corpses. It was all very clean and tidy, with a neat lawn all around, broken only by what might have been ventilation shafts, but which, in fact, were the orifices through which the blue crystals of Zyklon B were dropped into hollow columns of perforated sheet metal, which ran down to the floor of the chamber. There were douches in the ceiling to maintain the impression of a bath-house, but these were dummies, and there were no drainage channels in the floor, which was level and not sloped. It was through these perforated columns that the gas made its way into the chamber . . . (5: p200)

This excerpt opens up a whole new can of worms. If Crankshaw is correct that the hair was cut prior to the victims entering the gas chambers, then the Sonderkommando teams which processed the bodies afterward must have been shaving already bald heads! Furthermore, if the place had level floors with no drainage runnels (Martin Gray says the opposite in *For Those I Loved*) then it must have been nearly impossible to hose the place down. What about all the blood, vomit, excrement and menstrual fluid which many writers tell us was present after a gassing? How was this veritable cess pit cleaned out so that it looked "clean and tidy" and just like a spic and span "bath-house" in time for the next batch of victims?

Another "expert" in such matters is the American-Jewish newspaper reporter William L. Shirer who relates to us:

> Up above where the well-groomed lawn and flower beds almost concealed the mushroom-shaped lids of vents that ran up from the hall of death, orderlies stood ready to drop into them the amethyst-blue crystals of hydro-cyanic acid, or Zyklon B . . .
>
> Moll . . . would laugh, and the crystals would be poured through the openings, which were then sealed.

> . . . but soon the inmates became aware that it was issuing from the perforations in the vents. It was then that they usually panicked, crowding away from the pipes and finally stampeding toward the huge metal door . . . (4: p1263)

Here again, the fixtures just seem to crop up like . . . mushrooms, and disappear again, for there is no evidence today of mushrooms, perforated vents, pipes, or huge metal doors.

As for the official Auschwitz Museum line, they tell us that

> We are able to reconstruct the process of extermination thoroughly, owing to the fact that the plans of the gas chambers and crematoria were saved from destruction, also thanks to the ruins of the buildings, used for exterminating and to the explanation proffered by ex-commandant Höss. (25: p29)

This does not help us any at all, however, because the "ruins" and the surviving facilities contradict almost every single allegation at every stage. As for the "plans of gas chambers" these are not made available to the visitor at Auschwitz. They are exhibited, high up on a wall where one would need a ladder to examine them. Professor Faurisson did manage to obtain a copy, through impressing on one of the guards his gratitude, and found that he had been given a blueprint copy of . . . a mortuary!

The Auschwitz guide-book referred to also describes the same elusive door which was "screwed-up" and the gas being discharged through "special vents" (25: p30).

In another Auschwitz Museum epic, Adolf Gawalewicz relates:

> In June 1941, the Camp Commandant Rudolf Höss was ordered by Himmler to undertake mass extermination of Jews, and instructed him to present within four weeks a detailed plan for building suitable installation. . .
>
> After the test already referred to as being carried out in September 1941 of Zyklon B gas as a means for killing, the next gassings were performed in the mother camp mortuary of crematorium No. 1, adapted for use as a gas chamber. At both ends were fitted gas-tight doors, and the Zyklon B was thrown in through openings in the ceiling. . .

> After the gas-tight doors were shut, the Zyklon B, giving off Prussic acid, was thrown in through openings in the ceiling. When some 15 to 20 minutes had elapsed, by which time victims in the gas chamber were suffocated, ventilators were turned on to clear the poisoned atmosphere . . .
>
> After the liberation, there were found in the camp stores several untouched boxes of Zyklon B and piles of tins which had contained the poison. Chemical experts reported the presence of Prussic acid in hair cut from women in the gas chambers, in zinc lids of the gas chamber ventilation holes, in metal hair pins and clasps. (3: insert pages 7-8)

It is questionable if A. Gawalewicz has ever been around his own museum. How can he speak about "gas-tight doors" at "both ends?" There are no such doors. At Auschwitz there is no door at all at one end; at the other end is a tacky wooden and glass door. At Birkenau there is only one door per chamber, hardly fitting the description of "both ends." Neither at Auschwitz nor at Birkenau are there any "zinc lids of gas chamber ventilation holes" so we wonder how it is possible to find any traces of Zyklon B there.

The supposedly definitive seven volume report of the International Auschwitz Committee (21) likewise is very unhelpful. There is next to no description of the actual construction, method, and administration of the gas chambers. A mysterious Professor Jan Olbrycht does make a few cursory references to "the pouring in of the poison into the chambers" which makes it sound like the Zyklon B was a liquefied gas! Even more strange is the confession given by one Johann Paul Kremer (21: p229). We are told that he originally made this report before an examining magistrate "Judge S." who was representing the Extraordinary State Committee for the Investigation of the Crimes of the German Fascist Aggressors and their Allies, at the Supreme National Court in Cracow. The Kremer "confessions" are riddled with contradictions. He claims to be in Prague when he was also in Auschwitz. He claims to have administered at the gassings, but to have been nowhere near them. He claims that the victims were loaded onto trucks and taken to the "gassing huts," and yet there were "gas chambers" right next to the railroad ramp. He claims that the Zyklon B was thrown "through an opening in the side wall" of the gas chamber, whereas everyone else says it was dropped in through the roof. In any case, where is this side hole today?

Later in the same series we read another description of the gas chambers from a Dr. Antoni Kepinski of Cracow. Needless to say, his report presents a totally different description altogether. This time the victims know they are to be gassed (most writers say they had no idea; they had to be tricked); that the gas chamber was an "alleged bathroom" (whatever happened to Kremer's "gassing huts" and why bother with camouflage if the victims knew anyway?); that a head wearing a gas mask could be seen through the opening in the ceiling (what about those metal shafts that went from ceiling to floor?) and so on and so on.

Let us now turn our attention to the actual forensic, tangible evidence at the camps today. Unfortunately, there is not a lot we can say about the alleged camps at Belzec, Chelmno, Sobibor and Treblinka. There is nothing there today except green fields, usually with a hideous "monument" of communist origin.

Dachau

At Dachau, there is a row of disinfection chambers which after the war were dubbed "gas chambers" but nobody today claims that they were other than disinfection chambers. A picture of one chamber is shown in Dr. Butz's book (*109*), and also in Richard Harwood's excellent Nurnberg book (*130*). The inscription on the metal door reads in German: "Caution! Gas! Mortal Danger! Do Not Open! Gassing times from 7.30 to 10.00."

Another room is labelled "Brausebad" ("Showerbath") above the door, and a modern sign beside it reads "This gas chamber whose construction had been started in 1943, was still not completed in 1945 when the camp was liberated. No one could have been gassed in it." The room does appear to have shower-heads, although recent visitors have reported that these have been partially torn out of the ceiling by persons unknown.

Stutthof

Stutthof, near Danzig (not to be confused with Struthof-Natzweiler in France) has a "gas chamber" on partial display, and it does appear to have a single opening in the ceiling. However, any further analysis is not possible because both entrance doors are sealed off from visitors by coils of barbed wire. The mystery deepens even further when we read one of the Polish government guides *Genocide 1939-1945*, (*12*), which tells us on page 70 that "owing to the fact that Stutthof had no gas chambers installations (*sic*) they were generally liquidated by bringing them in the shortest possible time to a 'natural' death." Stutthof does not feature prominently in the Exterminationists' litany.

Auschwitz I

If we stand on the roof of what is variously called the "gas chamber and crematorium 1" (*25:* inside front flap) and "the mortuary of crematorium 1 in Auschwitz" (same book; page 38), we can see 8 projections with lids sticking out of the roof. Two of them, the larger ones on the right, do not actually belong to the "gas chamber/mortuary" but to the crematorium room next door. These appear to be little chimneys or vents, and do appear to be genuine ventilation ducts, to evacuate excess smoke or heat from the vicinity of the crematory ovens.

Two of the other six vents open into the "gas chamber/mortuary" near the glass door at the far end. They are about 10cm x 10cm, and appear to be genuine ventilators again.

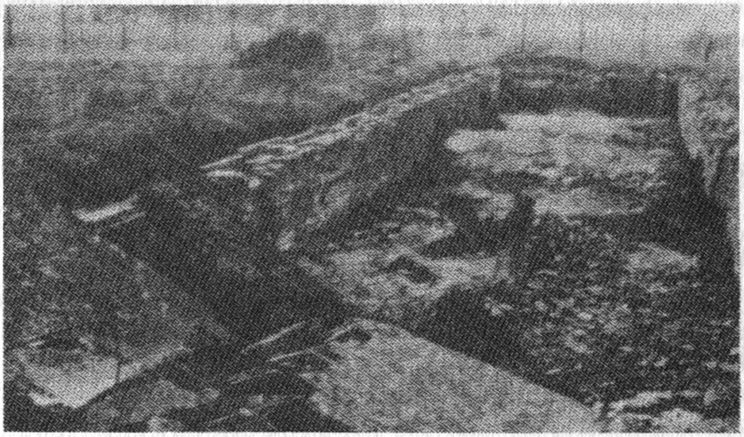
But the remaining four openings are a different case altogether. These four are claimed to be **the** openings through which the Zyklon B was introduced. Their lids are made of wood, with wooden handles also. There is no provision for screwing tight, and they are anything but airtight. Needless to say, there are no "sheet-metal perforated shafts" connected to them underneath. When one lifts one of the lids, one can see visitors walking around in the "gas chamber/mortuary" down below. My conclusion is that these four holes were made later—and by a very clumsy craftsman—so as to make the structure conform, at least a little, to the legend.

Auschwitz II—Birkenau

There are two symmetrical structures at Birkenau which are variously termed "crematory/gas chamber 2 & 3." There are ante-rooms called "dressing/undressing rooms" which are frequently transposed by the Exterminationist "experts" who cannot agree which room served which function. Some books (*25*, & *10*) put the gas chamber in one room, and the un/dressing room in another. Yet the models on display outside "gas chamber 2" and at the main Auschwitz museum put the rooms the other way around!

In a later article we shall look at the confusion surrounding the "dressing room"/"undressing room" debate, but for now let us just note that in many photographs on display at Auschwitz and elsewhere, the "gassed" victims are fully dressed, which would seem to indicate that the Sonderkommandos put the clothes back on the corpses after gassing!

To those who have read survivor tales of sliding doors, hermetically-sealed lids, portholes, perforated columns, and so on, gas chambers 2 & 3 will come as something of a



Birkenau. Ruins of gas chamber and crematorium II.

This picture and caption appear on page 107 of *Auschwitz 1940-1945: Guide-Book Through the Museum,* written by Kazimierz Smolen and published by the Auschwitz museum authorities. If the "gas chamber and crematorium II" were blown up, what is the "crematorium II" which is on display at Birkenau today? It must be a reconstruction.

shock. The structures resemble a basement storage for potatoes more than anything else. There are no such paraphernalia there.

Obviously the hoaxers have paid token heed to the legend here, and have chiseled out two holes in the roof of gas chamber 2. But the larger hole is so rough and sloppy that the reinforced steel bars at the concrete are visibly trajecting, and the mortar has obviously been chiseled. The "lid" appears to be an old manhole cover which has been drafted into this new role.

Gas chamber 2 is not open to the public, so I had to take a great risk and climb down into the "gas chamber" through the chiseled opening in the roof. I found **none** of the apparatus described in the various testimonies. I took many extremely valuable flashlight pictures in there to prove the point.

At gas chamber 3 next door, there was **no** opening in the roof, and no other access, yet the two structures are "identical" we are told.

In later articles we shall look at more Exterminationist confusion surrounding the doors to the various structures.

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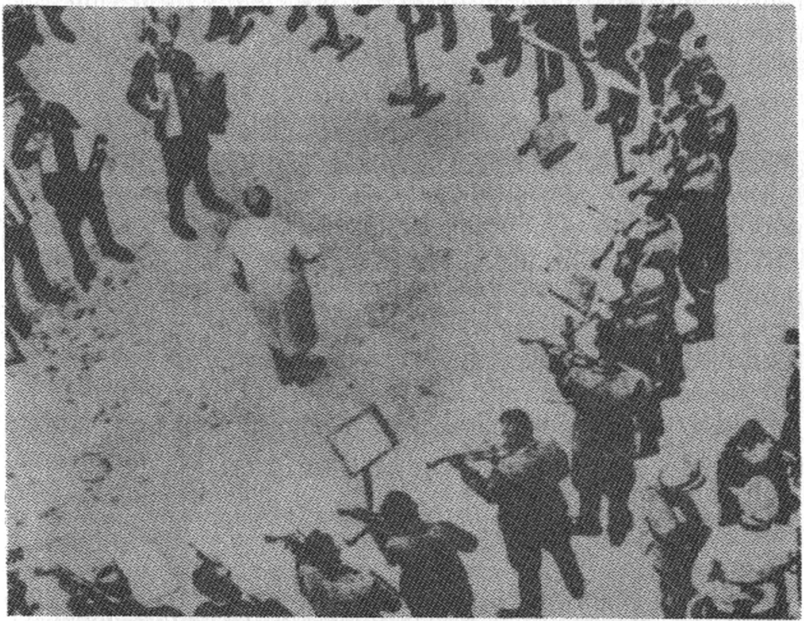

A ROLE VANESSA CAN'T PLAY **— The scene was grim in Auschwitz as the orchestra played while Jews marched to the gas chambers. Fania Fenelon was a member of that orchestra. CBS cast anti-Zionist Vanessa Redgrave in the role of Fania Fenelon in the upcoming television production based on the book about her life. A grassroots protest movement for CBS to reverse its decision has been initiated by members of the entertainment industry and many Jewish groups around the country. Photo was taken from exhibit at the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles. (See additional photo and story page 4, editorial page 20.**

—B'nai B'rith Messenger Photo by Lee Wainschel

Despite interviewing Fania Fenelon in person, the *B'nai B'rith Messenger* still can't get it straight. This photo appeared with this caption on 17 August 1979, yet nowhere in Fenelon's book does she claim to have played "while Jews marched to the gas chambers." What she does say is that she played for the camp's officers, and that she led a very privileged existence while at Auschwitz. One other thing: in the original picture the Germans in the bottom right-hand corner look as if they have been added in by photo-montage, which is very easy to do as Colin Vary shows in *The Victims* ($5 from IHR). This might not be so obvious from this reproduction. Finally, how was it that Fania Fenelon was part of an orchestra which is all male? In her book, they are all female!

Book Reviews

EYEWITNESS AUSCHWITZ: THREE YEARS IN THE GAS CHAMBERS, Filip Müller, Stein & Day, 180pp, hardback $10.85. ISBN: 0-8128-2601-9.
IN THE GERMAN MILLS OF DEATH 1941-1945, Petro Mirchuk, Vantage, 217pp, hardback, $6.95. ISBN: 0-533-01908-7.
PLAYING FOR TIME, Fania Fenelon, Berkley, 289pp, paperback, $2.50. ISBN: 0-425-04199-9.

These three books are of interest to the modern Revisionist for various reasons. They are all "survivor" testimony of Auschwitz, and thus descriptions and events can be compared for discrepancies or contradictions.

The Müller book has been quoted once or twice by Exterminationists in Australia, in their feeble attempts to contradict hard Revisionist evidence. Mr. Mirchuk submitted his book in connection with a claim for the Institute for Historical Review's $50,000 reward for proof of gassings. Ms. Fenelon is, of course, at the center of a current controversy over whether or not the ardent anti-Zionist Vanessa Redgrave should be allowed to portray her in a forthcoming TV film of the same name.

Many people will be under the impression from "media hype" that Fenelon claims to have been part of the orchestra which supposedly conducted the inmates to the "gas chambers." (Even though Gitta Sereny attempts to correct this in the *New Statesman* 2 November 1979, when she insists that the orchestra conducted the inmates to and from **work.**) But a study of her book will show that Ms. Fenelon had very little to do with the other inmates, and instead was in a fairly privileged position as a member of the orchestra which played for the German **staff.**

Her book contains all the usual neuroses found in much survivor testimony, including many scatalogical references, and claims to have encountered famous and infamous characters of the Holocaust pageant. Thus, one has only reached the first page of this historical narrative before she is telling us that

> A trick I'd found to cool myself was to wash in my urine. Keeping myself clean was essential to me, and there is nothing unclean about urine. I could drink it if I was thirsty—and I had done so.

Perhaps Ms. Fenelon learned these mysterious sanitary properties of urine—previously totally unknown to modern science—

from her fellow survivor Kitty Hart. A TV program entitled *Kitty–Return to Auschwitz* was shown on British commercial television last November, and was later reviewed in the *Jewish Chronicle* 9 November 1979. Naturally, Kitty managed to survive only because she was assigned to labor, rather than gassed, which fate befell "thirty members" of her family. Her work was not without respite however, for while

> she sunbathed on the grass, "the crematorium was in the background and I could see that people were being sent in one end and that there were ashes at the other end ten minutes later."

Ms. Hart's fascinating reportage also includes her claim that

> "I washed in my own urine."

One wonders if these weird scatalogical fantasies have any inspiration in Talmudic lore, for as William Grimstad shows in *The Six Million Reconsidered*, that particular tome is brim full of allusions to toiletary and sexual functions and dysfunctions.

Ms. Fenelon was deported from Drancy near Paris to Auschwitz quite late in the war, on 23 January 1944. She was given the number 74862, which was tattooed on her arm. However, a check with the Serge Klarsfeld re-publication of deportees' manifests, does not show a Fenelon or a Goldstein (her real name) against this number.

Nowhere in her narrative does the reader find any description of gassings. In fact, the subject is introduced so matter-of-factly that it almost seems that the activity is and was very common knowledge. Throughout the entire book, the only references to extermination are the reported speech of Ms. Fenelon's companions, or the subjective assumptions of the authoress herself. Thus, on pages 63 and 175 we get reports of gassing from an "Irene." On pages 64, 79 and 213 we find complaints about the smell of burning flesh pervading the atmosphere (even above the smell of stale, urine-soaked clothes?). Pages 79 and 145 bring us descriptions of chimneys billowing thick, black soot. Yet another inmate "Flora" reports on page 197 that handbags were made out of tattooed human skin.

Some of her claims may well have a basis in fact, such as the existence of a sauna (p135), a psychiatric ward (p135—but weren't they all gassed right away as being unsuitable for work?), receiving parcels from outside (p166), going swimming (p221), and the very existence of the orchestra itself.

Rather more on a par with her claims of gassing are her references to Allied bombing of Auschwitz "aimed at the crematoria" (p255), camping out with Anne Frank (p263) and playing a concert for Himmler who "invented the gas chambers" (p203).

All in all, it would appear that Ms. Fenelon's ghost-writer Marcelle Routier may have used a dash too much of poetic license in writing Ms. Fenelon's memoirs. All that reported speech about gassings cannot possibly be accurately recalled after 35 years; even if such rumors were being bandied around.

Another survivor who relies almost totally on hearsay in the camps is Petro Mirchuk, a Ukrainian now living in Philadelphia. His book *In the German Mills of Death 1941-1945* is published by a "vanity" press; in other words the author paid to have it published. Although Mirchuk claims to have been a member of the Ukrainian underground, he is not highly regarded among Ukrainian exile groups in the United States. Many view him as an embarrassment, not least because he attempted to submit his book as "proof" of gassings, to claim the IHR's $50,000 reward.

In fact the book *proves* absolutely nothing. There are long descriptions of his various imprisonments under different regimes, and chapters dealing with his work day at the Auschwitz assignments. But references to gassing are scant and superficial.

The author relates that he arrived at Auschwitz in July 1942. He was assigned a number, which was imprinted on his clothing; not tattooed. He managed to survive having his head shaved, and taking a shower, without mishap, unlike those 6 million (or as some say "11 million") others. He managed to survive encountering the dreaded Auschwitz orchestra, which played music in front of the kitchen as the prisoners marched past, not to the "gas chambers," but to work. Mirchuk recalls how they were often sent outside the camp to work on construction projects, and agriculture. Chapter 6 is devoted to a description of Birkenau (or "Auschwitz II") where Mirchuk admits he had never been. It was three miles away from his camp at Auschwitz I. However this does not prevent him providing a description of the gas chamber and the gassing operation:

> They were taken by groups into a big room which looked exactly like a shower room, but when the room was filled with prisoners the doors were closed and the gas Cyclon B was released through holes in the floor and ceiling. In about ten minutes all who were in the room would be dead. A special kommando called the sonderkommando, consisting of about eight hundred strong young Jewish prisoners selected from the Jewish transports, transferred the corpses from the gas chambers to the crematoria. (pp60-61)

He goes on to describe the cremation of the corpses. Apparently there were four large crematoria always in operation, but as this was insufficient capacity, corpses had to be burned in the open. There would be a layer of corpses, then a layer of logs, then more corpses, until the piles were two storeys high (*sic*). The completed pyre was then doused in kerosene and set on fire. By the time the second pile was completed, the first would be burned out. Then the members of the sonderkommando would "clean up the few remaining bones and start a new pile." Naturally, the wicked Germans wanted to save on their gas bills, so children under 12 were thrown into the fires alive, in a kind of National Socialist suttee, and "after a few minutes of the extremely high heat, there would remain only an ash where there had been a child." Members of the sonderkommando teams were themselves gassed and replaced every three or four months, which will no doubt come as a surprise to Filip Muller, who claims to have spent "three years in the gas chambers" and lived to tell the tale.

Mirchuk's description is so outlandish that one wonders at even a vanity press having the *chutzpah* to print this garbage. There is just no way that bodies could be burned so rapidly, and with just "a few remaining bones" or "ash" afterward. Any mortician or pathologist will confirm that the cremation of a single body in a modern crematory oven takes three to four hours, and there are so many bones left over that they have to be ground down in a bone mill, before being put in an urn. Any readers with a fireplace or wood stove will know that beef bones are one of the most difficult objects to incinerate.

Naturally, Mirchuk tells us, the Germans were so fiendish that they commanded the sonderkommandos to write letters home describing how they worked on a "disinfection process" and that the letters were always post-dated after their own gassing.

All of Mirchuk's descriptions of extermination by gas, he admits are the hearsay of fellow internees who had visited Birkenau.

A different can of worms altogether is opened by Filip Müller with his *Eyewitness Auschwitz: Three Years in the Gas Chambers*. He claims to have worked on the *sonderkommando* teams himself. Despite the claim of Mirchuk, and many others, that the teams were gassed and replaced every few months, "by a sheer stroke of luck he survived" (pxi). In fact he lived to testify at the Auschwitz Trial in Frankfurt in 1964, and to have his testimony published as one chapter of *The Death Factory*, by O. Kraus and E. Kulka in 1966. His memoirs were also published in Czech in 1946.

In December 1979, Australian civil liberties attorney John Bennett wrote to Müller in care of his London publisher and received a reply dated 24 January 1980 in fractured German. Bennett had inquired how it was that Müller managed to survive so long against the allegedly incredible odds. Müller's reply is reprinted here in full in English. The German original is available for inspection from John Bennett.

Mannheim
24 January 1980

Filip Müller
68 Mannheim 1
Ulmenweg 25
West Germany

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I have received your letter thru Routledge & Kegan of London. Your justified questions demonstrate that you are very familiar with the concentration camp literature which unfortunately does not always present correct testimonies. Many legends have been written about this tragic truth and a few falsehoods have crept into the writing of Dr. Nyiszli.

Now, my answers to your questions.

My time in the *Sonderkommando* (special unit) was divided into two phases: a) in Auschwitz I from May 1942, and b) in Auschwitz II-Birkenau from late Spring 1943 until 18 January 1945.

During the course of my stay at Auschwitz I there were never any selections (*Selektionen*). From May 1942 until December 1942, a group of about 200 men was simultaneously active in the Birkenau *Sonderkommando*. They were gassed in December 1942 in Auschwitz I. Afterwards, a new *Sonderkommando* was organized by the SS in about January 1943 in which 300 inmates had to work in Birkenau. From February 1944 until November 1944, four selections in all were carried out there. At the final selection, 30 inmates were chosen for Crematorium V. (Among them, the group of Dr. Nyiszli, myself and others.) At the same time, another 70 men were assigned to the so-called "*Abbruchkommando*" (demolition unit) which worked on dismantling the crematoria. The rest were sent on to Grossrosen. However, these men were killed at an unknown location. (On that subject, see pp161-162 of my book.) The claim that periodic selections were supposed to have been made of the *Sonderkommando* does not correspond to the facts. For example, during the course of the entire year 1943 no selections were carried out. The strength (size) of the *Sonderkommandos* was dependent on the number of transports which arrived, and was not bound to any time period. The further fate of the *Sonderkommandos* can be read on pp164, 166 and 167.

About 100 men from the *Sonderkommandos* survived the liberation. A few are living today in Israel (including, for example, the brothers Avrohom and Schlomo Dragon, Milten Bugi, Lemke and others). My friend Alter Feinzylberg, alias Jankowski, lives in Paris. He was in the crematorium in Auschwitz I after November 1942. And so forth. The many statements which allege that not a single inmate who was in a *Sonderkommando* remained alive are also only pure fiction.

The following factors were decisive as far as my own fate is concerned:

1. A strong will to live, with the goal of being an eyewitness to the crimes and not to capitulate in border-line situations.

2. To pass on information and documents to escaping inmates about the crimes and thus alert world attention. Altho this happened, the Allies unfortunately failed to draw the conclusions. See chapter V. (Alfred Wetzler, Walter Rosenberg-Vrba).

3. Thru the conspirative activities in preparation for a total revolt, flight to the partisans, and then to blow up the railway lines to Auschwitz and thereby bring the inferno to an end.

4. Fate.

This spiritual attitude which gave my life meaning there sometimes played the most important role at certain times. It strengthened my will and gave my life meaning. All these important moments are described in detail in the book.

I got to know Dr. Nyszli (*sic*) very well in early summer 1944. He had to work in the *Sonderkommando* with his colleagues, Prof. Gorog and others, as a pathologist for Dr. Mengele. He was an outstanding and optimistic man. In contrast, Prof. Gorog was a sensible person. He died in Mauthausen in 1945. I never saw Dr. Nyiszli again after the war. He is supposed to have died in 1949-1950.

I am sure that my statements will give you an adequate overview on this subject. I remain, with friendly greetings,

s/ F. Müller

P.S. Since I don't know English, I am writing in German. Hopefully you will find someone who can translate this for you.

Whether or not historians find "fate," "will-power" and "the Allies" as being sufficient reasons for survival at the very heart of the "Mill or Death" is up to them. If they do, they might likely also be firm believers in the aviation abilities of domesticated ruminants.

Muller's book does not waste any time in getting down to the subject matter. Already by page 11 we are "into the crematorium" where the author was assigned to taking corpses out of the gassing room, stripping them of their clothes, and burning them in the crematoria next door. This will come as a surprise to all those Exterminationists who have been telling us all along that the victims were stark naked in the gas chamber, having been tricked into believing that they were taking a shower. The rest of the narrative continues in the same vein.

> I noticed there were some small greenish-blue crystals lying on the concrete floor at the back of the room. They were scattered beneath an opening in the ceiling. A large fan was installed up there, its blades humming as they revolved. (p13)

It is rather curious that there is no such giant fan exhibited today at Auschwitz. Nor is there a large hole in the ceiling where it might have been.

> Now all six ovens were working. (p14)
> The powers that be had allocated twenty minutes for the cremation of three corpses. (p16)
> With three corpses going into each oven at intervals of twenty minutes, it was possible to cremate more than fifty-four in one hour. (p17)

This will come as a surprise to pathologists and morticians, who, even with modern crematoria, find that it takes three to four hours to burn just one body!

By page 24 the author is delegated to a special team which is taking the bodies by truck to a pit in the countryside where they are buried. Page 33 takes him back to the gas chamber, where he witnesses 600 naked Jews being gassed. On page 38 he again witnesses a gassing operation. The Jews are again tricked into taking their clothes off and trooping into the gassing room (no mention of numbers this time).

> When the last one had crossed the threshold, two SS men slammed shut the heavy iron-studded door which was fitted with a rubber seal, and bolted it. (p38)

Again, none of this description is borne out by the present-day set-up at Auschwitz. Müller also claims that the gas was tipped in through six holes in the ceiling, where two Germans with gas-masks had scrambled up onto the roof. Truck engines were started up to drown the sound of screams. Gassings were always carried out at night or at dawn.

Pages 44 and 45 are probably the most important in the entire book. In referring to the gas chamber of the crematorium, Müller advises that "we used to call it the mortuary." And:

> The crematorium ovens were also used for the dead of other camp areas. Each evening the corpses of those who had died in the camp hospital arrived on a trolley.

These two brief excerpts are probably the key to the whole conundrum. The "gas chamber" was still what it "used to be"—a mortuary. The crematoria were used to burn the remains of those who had died from disease at the hospital. Müller's contradictory and bizarre descriptions are taken purely and simply from his imagination; or possibly from a ghost-writer's imagination.

Undaunted, he continues in the same vein. According to the author, SS doctors often visited the crematorium to take bits of people away for experiments. They would feel the legs and thighs of the gassees while they were still alive, and then after they were dead they would cut bits off and drop the pieces into a bucket where the still warm flesh would jump around. (It sounds like Mr. Müller has been watching too many low-budget horror-movies; this part reads like an excerpt from *Ship of Death*.)

On the same page, Muller bumps into his father working on a new crematorium chimney. By the next page, Dad dies of typhus and Filip burns him in the crematorium: a true case of disappearing up one's own chimney. Such is the scale of things in this nightmare world we have come to know as Holocaust.

However, Dad's workmanship could not have been too thorough, for on the next page we find that the firebricks have started to work loose again. Operations at this (Auschwitz I) "death workshop" ground to a halt, and while bigger and better facilities were being constructed at Auschwitz II (Birkenau), temporary facilities had to be rigged up. Two "whitewashed farmhouses with thatched roofs" were used, although the actual mechanics of the operation are not described. All we are told is that the bodies of the gassees were buried nearby. However, during the hot summer of 1942 the bodies started to swell up and ooze out of the ground. Naturally, Müller was one of those lucky ones to be allocated to the delightful job of digging up the bodies and burning them. Talk about favoritism!

By page 58, Muller gets transferred to Birkenau where their 15 ovens—working non-stop naturally—could cremate more than 3000 corpses a day. Nearby was another crematorium with the same capacity, and 400 meters further on, the two smaller crematoria 4 and 5. Altogether, we are told, "it was now possible in the course of 24 hours to cremate up to 10,000 corpses."

The Birkenau gas chamber is described on page 60:

> We were standing in a large oblong room measuring about 250 square meters. Its unusually low ceiling and walls were whitewashed. Down the length of the room concrete pillars supported the ceiling. However, not all the pillars served this purpose: for there were others too. The Zyklon B gas crystals were inserted through hollow pillars made of sheet metal. They were perforated at regular intervals and inside them a spiral ran from top to bottom in order to

> ensure as even a distribution of the granular crystals as possible. Mounted on the ceiling was a large number of dummy showers made of metal. These were intended to delude the suspicious on entering the gas chamber into believing that they were in a shower room. A ventilating plant was installed in the wall; this was switched on immediately after each gassing to disperse the gas and thus expedite the removal of corpses.

Needless to say, none of these "perforated metal columns" are in evidence at Birkenau today. Nor is the "ventilating plant" in the wall.

The SS guards, of course, know no limits to their sadism and depravity. On page 80 they tie up a prisoner and push him into one of the ovens, where he is burnt alive. How it is possible to **push** someone into a horizontal oven is not explained. On page 87 one of the female gassees attempts to distract the guards with a striptease show. During the mayhem, Müller gets locked in the gas chamber with the gassees, but miraculously is let out before the others are gassed. On page 141, the chief gasser Moll gets sexually turned on—as does his dog—with the killing of another beautiful young gassee.

The author is transferred once again, this time to work on the pits for burning excess corpses. By page 136, the burning is in full operation, with Muller's main job being to scoop up the run-off of human fat, and pour it over the pyre to keep the corpses well basted. It sounds like he is getting rather confused again; just a few pages previously he was telling us how the prisoners were all skin and bone.

The "ashes" (*sic*; no bones) were then dug out and carted away to be ground down into dust, and then buried in pits. Where these pits are located today—so that a forensic examination might take place—Muller doesn't say.

Events then move rapidly to a close, as Muller is evacuated from Auschwitz and marched to Austria, where he is liberated by the Americans.

Many of the descriptions, names and events in Müller's book have an uncanny familiar ring about them. Many seem to be direct plagiarism from earlier Holocaust testimony, overlain with a high-octane mixture of salacious sex, scatological grossness, sado-masochism, and *Twilight Zone* scenarios. No doubt one day David Wolper will want to make the book into a movie, à la Fania Fenelon, for such are the aggregate ingredients of cinematographical commercial success nowadays.

LB

ORADOUR: VILLAGE OF THE DEAD, Philip Beck, Leo Cooper Ltd., 196 Shaftsbury Avenue, London WC2; 88pp, hardback, £ 5.25. ISBN: 0-85052-252-8.

On reading this concise little book, one is struck by the tremendous contrast between descriptions of alleged German atrocities against Jews, and descriptions of alleged German atrocities against non-Jews. Most of the former are written by fellow Jews, often themselves "survivors" of the Holocaust, and their imagery usually draws on the same bizarre argot which is common to almost all Holocaust primers. Notions of sexual arousal and abuse; scatalogical functions and dysfunctions; theatrical Nazis in white gloves, silk shirts, and shiny boots; are all such recurrent themes in the "Holocaust" pageant that they have come to be an essential part of the script.

In Britain and America there are very very few books written which deal with German treatment of non-Jews in the occupied territories. There are one or two which deal with the so-called "Malmédy Massacre" and with the killing of British escapees from German PoW camps, but by and large, the English-language literature on this area is rather meager.

This new book is only the second book in English to deal exclusively with the "Oradour Massacre" when 642 inhabitants of Oradour-sur-Glane were rounded up and murdered by a division of the Waffen-SS. The ruins of the village are today preserved as a monument to the atrocity, although without any of the commercialism of Auschwitz or Dachau. A new Oradour has been constructed a few miles away, even though the Germans offered to reconstruct the old (the offer was refused). The new village is a sterile and unimaginative place, with numbered streets.

The atrocity occurred on a sunny Saturday afternoon, 10 June 1944. In towns further away, there had been some *Résistance* activity, and consequent German reprisals. But in Oradour-sur-Glane everything was peaceful: one wouldn't even know that a war was going on. At 2.15pm a convoy of a dozen Waffen-SS trucks pulled up in the village, and the soldiers jumped out and surrounded the entire village. A few citizens sensed that something was going to happen, and made off for the fields. But most thought that the Waffen-SS arrival was a military manoeuver.

The entire population was assembled in the village square. At about three o'clock the women and children were separated from the men. The Germans accused the menfolk of storing arms and ammunition in the village. The men were then taken away in groups of between 30 and 70, and shoved into the six largest buildings in the village, including barns, garages, blacksmiths, etc. Of the 190 men thus incarcerated, only six got out alive. All the others were machine-gunned and then the buildings were set on fire.

The women and children were locked up in the church. Two German soldiers carried in a box of gas grenades and then ran out. The grenades exploded, and the smoke enveloped the entire church. During the ensuing mayhem, German soldiers burst in through the doors again and sprayed machine-gun fire into the crowds of people. When all appeared to be dead, they set fire to the church.

The entire village was then burned, until very little remained except the charred ruins which stand there today. The massacre was carried out by a detachment of the third company of the 1st Battalion of the No. 4 Panzergrenadier Regiment ("Der Führer") of the Das Reich Division of the Waffen-SS. Most of the detachment which sacked Oradour were themselves Frenchmen, from Alsace and Lorraine. When Rommel was told of the Oradour massacre he said that the Division should be punished, and offered to preside over a court-martial.

Why was Oradour sacked? The author provides a list of ten different possibilities, including the most well-known theory: that it was the wrong Oradour. The author feels that the massacre was a reprisal for the kidnapping and murder by the *Résistance* of the Major's friend Kampfe. If there was going to be a court-martial of the German officers, it was precluded by events. Many of the officers were killed in the closing stages of the war.

The men were eventually brought to trial at Bordeaux in 1953, 8½ years after the massacre. Of the 21 acccused, 14 were Alsatians (Frenchmen). Most were found guilty, with several death sentences. Meanwhile, the French government repealed the law on collective guilt, and declared an amnesty for war criminals. The Alsatians and the Germans were soon sent home as free men.

As Revisionists, we should welcome books like Philip Beck's detailed and objective appraisal. Our WWII Revisionism is not to rehabilitate National Socialism, but to rehabilitate truth. And the simple truth is that in wartime, atrocities are committed on all sides; the winning side and the losing side. There can be no doubt that the massacre at Oradour did take place, just like the Allied massacres at Dachau. The reason why so few people know about the Oradour massacre is not just because it is a political hot potato for the French (with Frenchmen being found guilty of massacring Frenchmen), but also because the atrocities against non-Jews have become almost totally obliterated by the shadow of the largely fictitious atrocities against the Jews. It is only by clearing away the fictitious atrocities that we can properly appreciate and appraise the real atrocities.

LB

HITLER VS. ROOSEVELT, The Undeclared Naval War, Thomas A. Bailey and Paul B. Ryan, The Free Press (a division of Macmillan Publishing Co.), 303pp, Hardbound, $12.95. ISBN: 02-901270-8.

Two apparently major reviews are found on the back jacket of this 1979 book; one by Edward L. Beach of *Run Silent, Run Deep* fame, the other by Frank Freidel, Professor of American History at Harvard. And as reviewed there, one would get the distinct impression he was soon to read all about how FDR "very nearly succeeded in keeping us out" (of the war) and how "the analysis of Roosevelt's role is particularly instructive and should help destroy lingering stereotypes that he was engaging in subterfuge to get the nation into a full-scale war."

Curiously conversely, however, in the preface, the authors make a note concerning themselves which reads in part,

> The older author, an academic historian, viewed the scene at the time from the ivory tower detachment of Stanford University. He recalls reacting with anger to what appeared to be Roosevelt's determined efforts to drag the nation into an all out shooting war.

Of course, this is the same Stanford University which houses the formidable Hoover Institute on War and Peace of which Professor Antony C. Sutton was an eminent member in good standing until the approaching third volume of his massive Western Technology and Soviet Economic Development. Evidently, Sutton's illuminating research findings about the making of an enemy were causing some discomfort in the Establishment echelons. And, not altogether surprising as we'll see, we find the authors regularly drawing from newspaper journalist and amateur historian, William L. Shirer.

Your reviewer experienced a see-saw polemic throughout the work. On the one hand, FDR is a patriarchal conniver and manipulator, an oft-times shady dealer and big landlord, while, on the otherhand, a freeworld saviour as

> His major strategy, despite much deviousness in tactics, was to defend America by helping the British (and the Russians) survive Hitler's overwhelming assault . . .(preface)

And just what of Hitler? Well, the authors struggle to hold it back, but they just have to let it out. So we find such academically moot appellations as "practitioner of the big lie" (p47), "Hitler and his fellow gangsters" (p73), "the Hitlerian menace," the "notorious liar telling unpalatable truths," "madman," and so forth appearing throughout.

We expected to be treated to a fairly detailed analysis of FDR's undeclared war—with the U-boats and cruisers and all in international waters, and of the secret deals with Churchill, lendlease, the non-intervention pact manipulations, etc.—and so we are. The whole mid-section of the book—in the reviewer's opinion—does a fair and accurate job of narratively recounting the many playful and blunderous instances of Allied/Axis cat and mouse, spreading the evident responsibility with a discerning balance of historical justice.

But wait, what we read here in the several opening and closing chapters is another historical escapade altogether, a telltale liberal sprinkling of that all-to-familiar "court historian" Pharisaism that manages to excuse, even applaud virtually every FDR move while condemning most anything that looks at all like non-interventionism. This is typically evidenced where the authors take a benighted look at the days just prior to the Japanese attack—"The isolationist pack was in full cry . . ." (p236). Hopefully, early on, the reader will discover that *Hitler Vs. Roosevelt* is a seductive attempt at an outright apology for our great (day of infamy) thirty-second chief executive.

Where the authors concede to the stranglingly impossible Versailles settlement and even allow Germany a little breathing room in its attempt to shake off the bonds of a captive nation status, Hitler gets billed once again as the principal warmonger who, if not stopped, will get the entire planet in his terrible grip. The Axis nations are alone responsible for the ravages of war. But FDR, like an endearing big brother who chats with his electorate by the fireside and inestimably values his "public opinion," is very careful not to overtly break any of his promises to the people. And Charles A. Beard, an obviously important person who wholeheartedly disagrees with this estimation, is branded as one "of the more extreme postwar Revisionists" (p235).

When we really get down to the woof and warp, we find the authors almost desperately clinging to the old superficially deduced agreement that even though FDR and his cronies admittedly needed that Japanese first strike, well they just had no idea that it would be the pearl of the Pacific. And further, that "The presentation of the final Japanese diplomatic response came only a *few moments after* (ital. ed.). Secretary Hull learned of the attack on Hawaii"—as if this were some sound justification for Kimmler and Stout having been handcuffed beforehand, or their aircraft carriers unexplainedly dispersed, or the fateful dispatch being sent by the equivalent of commercial carrier pigeon. Or, as if that account were even remotely true.

The authors make no mention of the many documented Japanese peace overtures before Pearl Harbor. Nor will they present the evidence that would inform the reader of the ultimatums delivered by FDR to the Japanese (see "The Court Historians vs. Revisionism," in *The Barnes Trilogy*, IHR, $4.00), or treat in any amount of necessary detail the actual dramas occurring while FDR and his stateside commanders were biting their nails awaiting the attack. And conspicuously absent, of course, is the fact of their having known the approximate *when* and *where* some 15 hours beforehand.

Your reviewer was sorely tempted here to cite the exhaustive Barnes, Martin, Theobald, Flynn and Dall—accounts which Messrs. Bailey and Ryan have conveniently failed to look at in depth or even acknowledge. Or the almost countless, detailed expositories that document a frightening insight into Roosevelt, the man and politician, as he saw to the systematic monetary and commercial rape of his nation, barely escaping from the impending collapse with the promise of global war and a world government to see to things afterwards. But you already know all that.

But as far as *Hitler vs. Roosevelt* is concerned, it's a mundane, convenient little history of mostly minor events. And while we might be just a little pleased at its sporadic acquiescence though antipathetic toward its intention to be an answer to Revisionism, we are at a total loss as to where to assign it its proper place except to that well-populated, yet vacuous expanse of middle-of-the-road literature appropriately referred to as the historical twilight zone.

TJM

A PLACE APART, Dervla Murphy, Devin-Adair Company, 290pp, hardback, $15.00. ISBN: 0-8159-6516-8.

The "place apart" to which Ms. Murphy refers is that much maligned and misunderstood part of the world, Northern Ireland.

After many trips cycling in and to India, Nepal, Pakistan and Ethiopia, the Irish authoress suddenly realized that she had not yet ventured to the "darkest" part of her own island.

Her book is not a study of guerrilla warfare, nor theology, nor politics. It is simply an honest portrayal of emotions—her own and other people's—which becomes in effect, a revision of her own—and hopefully the reader's—preconceived attitudes toward that unfortunate place. Many people, including a large number of the southern Irish, regard the Northern Irish as sub-human troglodites, and Northern Ireland as "a squalid little briar patch."

In this 1976/77 travelog, Ms. Murphy describes her bicycle trip from County Waterford in south-eastern Ireland, up through the bogs and plains of the central basin, and across the border into the British province of Northern Ireland. She describes her gradual awakening to the true causes of civil unrest, through her encounters with citizens from all corners of the political and social maelstrom which is Northern Ireland.

She meets with extremists and with housewives; with religious leaders and with politicians. She finds her southern accent and ancestry of Irish rebellion no bar to access to the Loyalist community. And her liberalism and fairmindedness rarely prevent her from engaging in honest dialog with Provisional IRA fanatics.

Throughout the book Ms. Murphy comes across as a humanitarian and sincere truth-seeker. She can sympathize with the aspirations and fears of almost everyone she meets; she *feels* for the people; Loyalist and Republican alike. Her book describes her own personal odyssey from a position of scorn for the place, to one of understanding. In so doing, she also enlightens the reader and expands his or her understanding too. She also provides some historical data, which sketches in the "story-so-far." And her childhood recollections provide an intimate and personal background to her own analyses.

Dervla Murphy does not provide any answers to the Northern Ireland "problem" (although she does appear to have a predilection for the interesting and innovative idea of a secular, independent Northern Ireland). As a prominent English politician once said; once you think you've solved the Irish question they go and change the question!

Hopefully, this fine and honest book will go some way at least toward that evasive goal.

DM

THE CRUELEST NIGHT, Christopher Dobson, John Miller & Ronald Payne; Little Brown, Boston, 224pp, hardback, available from IHR at $11.00. ISBN: 0-316-18920-0.

In the March 1980 issue of *Encounter*, a "neo-conservative" journal edited by "ex-Trotskyists" (see *Nuremberg & Other War Crimes Trials*, IHR No. 306, pp10-11) an Australian academic lambastes John Bennett, the leading Revisionist in the Antipodes. Frank Knopfelmacher—in between slanderous slurs—mentions *en passant* that the "Holocaust" should not be questioned just as the sinking of the *Titanic* should not be questioned; for these consistitute "indubitable historical fact."

It is rather ironic that Mr. K. should pick on the *Titanic* as his pet Indubitable Historical Fact, for the above captioned book shows that that sinking was far from being the worst naval tragedy of all time, as many believers in Indubitable Historical Facts would maintain.

These three British journalists have stumbled across an atrocity which only those addicts of the *Guinness Book of World Records* have heard of: the torpedoing and sinking of the *Wilhelm Gustloff* German refugee ship by the Soviets, in the Baltic in 1945. At least 7,000 refugees lost their lives; nearly five times the number who died on the more glamorous *Titanic*.

The refugees were fleeing from the advancing hordes of the Red Army, which was already into East Prussia. In October 1944 the Soviets had taken the East Prussian town of Nemmersdorf, and had gone on a wild spree of rape, murder and plunder. Five days later, the Germans had managed to regroup their decimated forces, and retook the town after bitter street to street fighting.

> Five days after the Russians occupied Nemmersdorf, General Friedrich Hossbach and his battered Fourth Army threw them out again. When his troops arrived in the village, hardly a single inhabitant remained alive. Women had been nailed to barn doors and farm carts, tanks had crushed those who had tried to flee, children had been shot. (p16)

It was with such horrific butchery fresh in their minds that almost the entire population of East Prussia fled to the nearest path of escape: the sea-port of Gdynia. They swarmed to the dockside to attempt to get on board the few ships which were available. Eventually, 8,000 people set sail on board the *Gustloff*, a pleasure cruise ship designed for 2,000. The next night, 31 January 1945, the ship was torpedoed by the Soviet submarine S13.

In the freezing water, only a handful of the survivors of the assault managed to stay alive. There were too few lifeboats, and swimmers had to be shot to stop them trying to climb aboard already overcrowded rafts. Rescue ships that came on the scene could not stop, for fear that they too would be torpedoed. A total of only 964 survivors were picked up out of the sea; but many of these later died of cold.

On 9 February 1945 the Soviets struck again, and sank the *General Steuben*. Of the 4,000 on board, only 300 survived. On 16 April 1945, the same fate befell the *Goya*. Of an estimated 7,000 people on board, only 183 were rescued.

In total, almost 18,000 Germans—mostly women, children, and wounded men—lost their lives in the space of just a few months. Who today even knows about this atrocity?

This new book is professionally written by three *Daily Telegraph* (London) journalists. The journalistic style makes it easy to read, and its factual basis in records and survivor testimony make it a valuable historical aid. It is fortunate that the authors do not include the usual codicils about the "Holocaust" or limp excuses for the barbarous Soviet behavior. However there are one or two gratuitous references to Nazi brutality particularly in regard to the career of Gauleiter Erich Koch, whom the authors claim to have discovered still alive, albeit imprisoned, in Warsaw.

LB

MEMOIRS OF AN ANTI-ZIONIST JEW, Rabbi Elmer Berger, Institute for Palestine Studies, 160pp, paperback, $5.00 from IHR. ISBN: 0-911038-87-6.

THE DECADENCE OF JUDAISM IN OUR TIME, Moshe Menuhin, Institute for Palestine Studies, 590pp, hardback, $13.00 from IHR. ISBN: 0-911038-88-4.

It is a sad commentary on the extent of control the media moguls have over us that very few people can even conceptualize the notion of an anti-Zionist Jew. Yet these two authors have been pumping away for these past 30 years, trying to enlighten not just their fellow Jews, but also the world at large, that Judaism does not equal Zionism. There have been very few like them. There was of course William Zukerman's *Jewish Newsletter* which did so much to expose corruption in Jewish and Zionist life, such as the kosher food tax racket, where ordinary consumers pay a levy on their groceries to keep unscrupulous rabbis and Zionists in pocket. Today we have the dedicated and persevering Alfred M. Lilienthal, with his *magnum opus The Zionist Connection* ($21 from IHR), a book which every American must read. And there is also the religious opposition to Zionism among orthodox Chassidic Jews, based mostly in New York, who regard Israel as a blasphemy.

But these two authors have undoubtedly kept the torch burning, when many other anti-Zionist Jews preferred to keep mum, lest they suffer the economic and social consequences.

Berger has been anti-Zionist all his life, and prior to the establishment of the Israel entity, he regarded Zionism as an anomaly. During WWII he quickly realized how the Zionists in the United States were using the phenomenon of Nazism in Europe as a ploy to insist on the establishment of an Israel. And, when the Israel colony was finally established, he soon saw what a totalitarian regime it was, totally contrary to the philosophy of both Reform Judaism, and of American democracy. As a rabbi, he feared for the integrity of his religion, debased as it was by being artificially wedded to a brutal and authoritarian nationalist regime.

His book describes his adventures and campaigns from his first activities in 1942 through to the present day. His memoirs are an inspiring tale of tenacity and determination. He had to cope with "supporters" who turned traitor; with economic blackmail from Zionist moneybags; with political subversion from the government; and with clumsiness from Arab friends. His campaigns took him on tours of the Middle East also, and he met with dignitaries, and spoke at political meetings.

In the end, however, the inevitable happened. Instead of meeting Berger head-on in a public debate, the Zionists preferred to subvert his organization from within. They infiltrated their own people to the top, and pulled his chairmanship of the American Council for Judaism out from under him. Berger tried to start up a new organization entitled American Jewish Alternatives to Zionism, but the attempt fizzled out. Berger was still too much a gentleman to make any real headway. He was even naive enough to offer a forum to Zionists who were critical of Israel. It was really inevitable that he should fail.

A different animal altogether is the firebrand of Los Gatos, California, Moshe Menuhin, the 87 year old father of Yehudi Menuhin the Zionist and violinist. Menuhin senior was born in Russia and raised in Palestine, but emigrated to the United States in 1913. During the 1920s he gradually realized his own disenchantment with political Zionism, and its discrediting and degenerating effect on Judaism. As a religious Jew, he was conscientiously concerned about the fate of the Palestinians, whose country the Zionists intended to rob, and in so doing, blaspheming the name of Judaism.

This book was first published in 1965 by a New York "vanity" publisher, but it became so popular that the company refused to keep it in print. Whether this was for political reasons, or because they have a commercial vested interest in ensuring that all authors subsidize their own books, is debatable. This edition is a second impression, updated by the author, and published by the Institute for Palestine Studies, which has offices in Washington DC and Beirut, Lebanon.

The book is a melánge of Zionist and Jewish history, starting with Biblical times. The first part deals with the historic relationship between Jews and Arabs, and their co-existence in the Middle East. He describes the chicanery of the British government in promising Palestine to the Arabs, in return for their insurrection against the Turks, and to the Jews, in return for economic co-operation. He provides pen-portraits of many of the characters—Zionists, Arabs, and westerners—who were involved in this *danse macabre*.

Part Two deals with the modern-day, and describes the intimate interface between the Israeli government, and the Jewish establishment in the United States. He gives some examples of the inherent corruption of the Israeli leaders, and their political gymnastics.

Part Three is a 1969 postscript to the book, and in it he describes reactions to the first edition, and comments on events which have happened on the Zionist scene in the meantime. He gives his version of the takeover of the American Council for Judaism, and the ousting of Elmer Berger.

Menuhin's book is intensely personal, and full of much emotion and vitriolic condemnation of his fellow Jews. However, there is also much factual information in the book, although a lot of it is of a secondary nature. Still, there are so few anti-Zionist books in existence that even a compendium of secondary information is a valuable asset, so long as it is thoroughly indexed and referenced (which this is). Through his personal and literary enthusiasm, Menuhin has inspired many others to join the crusade, not least the distinguished (Gentile) economist Norman F. Dacey who has many kind words to say about Menuhin's book in his—as yet unpublished—manuscript *The Golden Calf*.

LB

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

Harry Elmer Barnes (1889-1968) is generally regarded as the founding father of Historical Revisionism. The first-ever Revisionist Convention in 1979 was dedicated to his memory. He authored scores of books and hundreds of articles, which take up **forty-seven** pages of listings in his biography. The best introduction to his writings is *The Barnes Trilogy* (IHR, 1979, $4). In the last issue we incorrectly attributed a reprinted article to *The Freethinker* of San Diego, an atheist magazine. In fact the article originally appeared in a libertarian magazine of the same name published by students at California State University, Northridge. The article in this current issue is reprinted from *Rampart Journal*, Summer 1967.

Louis FitzGibbon is the author of the finest book on the Soviet murder of 15,000 Polish officers in 1940—*Katyn* (recently re-published by the IHR). He was chairman of the Katyn Memorial Committee in London, which brought about the erection of the Katyn Memorial. Mr. FitzGibbon also designed the monument. He is fluent in the Polish language and is very highly regarded amongst Polish expatriate communities on both sides of the Atlantic. He is currently an executive with a commercial company in London. He is the half-brother of the Exterminationist writer Constantine FitzGibbon, who translated the Rudolf Hoss "autobiography."

Mark Weber was raised in Oregon where he attended Jesuit High School. Before starting college he lived and worked in Bonn, Germany, and Kumasi, Ghana. Returning to the United States, he studied at University of Illinois, Chicago, then back to Europe for two semesters at University of Munich, Germany. He frequently did research at the Institute for Contemporary History; the IHR's "mirror image" on the Exterminationist side. In 1976, he graduated with high honors from Portland State University, with a BA in history. Receiving laudatory recommendations from a number of professors, he was offered several scholarships for post-graduate study. He chose a full fellowship from Indiana University, and studied and taught there for three semesters. He received his master's degree in central European history in December 1978. He now lives in the Washington, DC area, and works as a freelance German translator, and National Archives researcher.

Charles Lutton teaches history at The Summit College, in Colorado. He is a member of the American Committee on the History of the Second World War.

Ditlieb Felderer is one of four refugee children who were all born in different European countries. He himself was born in Innsbruck, Austria, in 1942. The family eventually found refuge in Sweden, where Mr. Felderer now lives with his Filipino wife. In 1959, Mr. Felderer became converted to the Jehovah's Witnesses faith, and went on extensive evangelizing tours of North America. He first became interested in the "Holocaust" when researching an article on the treatment of the Jehovah's Witnesses during the war. After comparing the Exterminationist and Revisionist views, he was at once converted to the latter. He now runs his own magazine and publishing house *Bible Researcher*, and organizes Revisionist tours of Poland every summer.